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Earth First!

Litha

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THE RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL

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Virtual Luddites

Monkeywrenching On the Web

BY STEFAN WRAY

Computers. Some of us swear by them. Others against them. But whether you're for or against computers, they aren't likely to go away anytime soon. They are fast becoming part of nearly everyone's reality. It is almost impossible to function today without being touched by computers. But even if we somehow manage to live far from computerized society, our opponents, like the federal government and giant corporations, depend heavily on these microprocessing machines. Given that our political opponents are among the most wired in the world, it is foolish to ignore the computer. Rather, it is important to turn our attention toward it, to understand it and to transform it into an instrument of resistance. For the Luddites of the world who resist computers, consider using them to resist.

Until recently, most radical computer use had been confined to communicating messages over the Internet. In the 1980s, social movements began to engage in computer-mediated political communication. Today political communication by e-mail, supplemented by texts, sounds and images posted on interconnected websites, represents the bulk of communicative computer use by radical social movements around the world. The experience of the global pro-Zapatista movement exemplifies these forms of international political communication on the Internet.

continued on page 16

Lighten Up! Globalization Ain't So Bad!

WORLDWIDE PARTIES RECLAIM THE STREETS

BY AYELET HINES AND CRAIG EVARTS

It's all the rage. Kids love it more than Beanie Babies and sniffing glue. Reclaim the Streets actions debuted in London in 1991 and have become a favorite pastime in cities around the globe. Reclaim the Streets (RTS) parties celebrate the anti-roads movement by promoting walking, cycling and free public transportation, while cursing cars, roads and the system that bore them. Paint-it-yourself bicycle lanes, road blockades, street parties and strike organizing have all been part of the worldwide effort to reclaim public space and resist our money-grubbing car culture.

May 16 was the international RTS day of observance. Anarchists throughout the world defied even the calendar by taking back their streets as early as April. The partygoers all had a fabulously good time, which is more than can be said for most of the police who patrolled them. We ranked police forces around the world according to their ability to have fun, and here's how the cops scored from cranky to swanky:

Prague, Czech Republic: Don't take Czech po-po to your prom. They aren't much fun at all. In fact, they are far and away the losers of this year's Golden Donut, Fun Cop Award.

Prague's first RTS day of observance went off with a bang. Over 3,000 people blocked the city's main road with four sound systems, 20 disc jockeys, 30 drummers, a puppet show and fire performers. Six police cars, a few billboards, three McDonalds, a Kentucky Fried Chicken and a skinhead shop were demolished. Police arrested over 100 partygoers. Local media declared the party the biggest police confrontation in the country in ten years. Forty people were injured and 22 police officers hospitalized. A judge ruled that nine party guests, charged with hooliganism and attacking public officials, must remain in custody during an investigation of the party. If convicted, they face up to three years in prison. The festivities were condemned by Czech Greenpeace, but what do you expect from a party hosted by the Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation, the Rainbow Keepers and Earth First!?

Toronto, Canada: Toronto police lose big fun points for weaving through the party with knives, cutting streamers, bursting balloons and threatening people with arrest. Over 600 dancing and drumming riffs split into two unwieldy groups reclaiming their streets. The balloon-stomping squad, after harassing people sitting in the street, eventually opened their blockade, allowing partygoers to march down the street. Four people were arrested for having fun, a felony in Canada.



Dancing on the ruins in London.

Photo by Andrew Testa

continued on page 21



"Blood" spilled at Oxy headquarters.

HANDS OFF THE U'WA!

OCCIDENTAL HEADQUARTERS BLOCKADED

BY PAN AND FISH TACO

Occidental Petroleum (Oxy) plans to drill for oil and lay an oil pipeline in the Samore block of the Arauca state of Colombia, an area that, according to the indigenous U'wa tradition, has been the sacred homeland of their people since the beginning of time. The U'wa have vowed to walk off a 1,400-foot cliff in a mass suicide if their ancestral home is violated. There is good reason to take the threat seriously. Once before, when the Spanish conquistadors came, a large number of U'wa walked over the same cliff. Nonetheless, the Los Angeles-based Oxy corporation continues making plans to drill.

Guerrilla warfare always follows oil development in Colombia. Because of guerrilla sabotage, another Occidental oil project, the Canon Limon pipeline, has spilled 1.7-million barrels of crude oil over the last 11 years, the equivalent of over five Exxon Valdez-size spills. Either by poisoning their land, destroying their self-sufficient culture or provoking guerilla crossfire or direct attack, the U'wa are certain to be killed by Oxy if this oil project goes ahead.

continued on page 15

Photo by Robert Kirsnow

EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH

POB 1415 • EUGENE, OREGON 97440 • (541) 344-8004



We Don't Deserve to Win

At times, I feel like the Earth First! movement is regressing. What happened to the days of blowing up dams and assassinating James Watt? (Okay, we never actually did those things, but it seems like we are afraid to even talk about them nowadays.) Vast wilderness proposals and abolishing the Forest Service seem like unreasonable demands when some EFlers don't even believe in Zero Cut.

What happened to the feeling that lots of monkeywrenchers and animal liberators were among us? Folks around you at the campfire were real outlaws, not just wannabe anarchists dressed in camo. Are we no longer a radical environmental movement?

Did the FBI crush the movement when they grabbed Dave Foreman out of bed? Did Dave and Judi Bari split the movement when they insisted that we either be elite teams of eco-guerrillas or huddled masses of the great unwashed? Was it the great nonviolence vs. "fuck shit up" debate? Are we having a mid-life crisis?

I would like to think our monkeywrenchers and liberators have just gotten more secretive and our visionaries have formed biodiversity projects. But I don't think that's the whole story. Those things may be true to an extent, but they don't explain everything. Something else is missing.

Some of our dysfunction comes from our late 20th century short-term vision. The world ain't gonna end when the Gregorian calendar becomes 2,000 years too old. We forgot to build sustainability into our movement. We need to share our hard-learned knowledge, train people to climb, do media work, write timber sale appeals, liberate animals, cut down billboards, burn bulldozers and topple powerlines. And then, maybe, we can blow up some dams.

To do these things, we need movement leaders. After being stabbed in the back by Dave (trying to kill the movement when he quit), we distrust or ridicule anyone who wants to get in front of a microphone. I'm not saying we need a president or that we need Dave back; I'm saying we need charismatic leaders, people who inspire us, people we trust, people who have earned our respect.

We actually do have organizers and leadership potential in Earth First!; we just need to empower ourselves to lead. A good model for us might be the early Wobbly movement: lots of leaders but no bosses. Having leaders does not mean that we're stuck with them or that we have to follow orders. Leadership does not mean hierarchy or hero worship. Reluctant leaders are often the best. An effective leader has a good sense of humor, shares rather than hoards information and, above all, is able to recognize and give up a firmly-held belief if someone else has a better one. Leadership roles can be rotated, at meetings, at

actions, for entire campaigns. The people that are good at it will inspire us to work with them again.

The one time I worked with Greenpeace, I was impressed by their structure for actions. The action had a leader (campaigner) who had ultimate say over and responsibility for all the GPer's actions. Different people were empowered and responsible for their parts of the actions—boat coordinators, climbing instructors, database specialists, volunteer coordinators, etc. The big problem with Greenpeace, of course, is that they hire their leaders, and they have a permanent hierarchical structure. But, overall, they function like a team. People are recognized for their strengths, and every position is acknowledged and appreciated for its importance in bringing about the collective goals.

That's the way team sports work. Everybody's skills are worked on at practice, but when the game (action) starts, you put your best players forward. The experienced and respected coaches (organizers) call the plays for the day, and the team trusts them to make the right decisions.

An old sports line goes, "It's not whether you win, it's how you play the game." Well, this ain't no game, and we have to win. Time's running out, so let's put our best feet forward and beat technology, the Forest Service, Weyerhaeuser, Mitsubishi and the whole consumer culture.

I would like to end this little rant by thanking the movement for trusting me to work here at the *Journal* for five and a half years. I'm off to watch some baseball. I have complete faith in the current collective to carry on and take the paper to new heights without me.

—JIM FLYNN

Corrigendum: Last issue we failed to credit Gregory K. Michael for his poem "Cowbane's End."

One last note: We are still looking for an additional long-term editor to fill out our staff. If you're the type to stay up late editing and tell stories about how the movement used to be, give us a call.

In Memorium

Forest-squatter and Food Not Bombs/Earth First! musician Lee Stevenson died in December in his redwood stump home in the Arcata Community Forest. Lee was loved by many here in Humboldt. Thinking that Lee went to visit family, nobody worried when we hadn't seen him in months. On March 21, Lee's skeletal remains were found in his sleeping bag. The cause of death is unknown. He was a humble visionary who lived his radical politics by being as close to the land as he could, sharing food, drumming, organizing, bicycling and treading lightly on this beautiful Earth. His last moments were spent in his peaceful home in the woods, snuggled in his sleeping bag with forest fog and fern. Now he has cycled back into the forest floor where new seedlings sprout this spring. We love you, Lee.

—SPRING

BY FAITH WALKER

only get a free meal but also predator-repelling toxins called lucibufagins (LCB) found in the prey's tissue.

Why *Photinus* naturally have these compounds while *Photuris* don't is unclear; it is perhaps acquired from a plant. When a bird or spider attacks an armed firefly, the beetle rapidly exudes blood droplets that contain LCB, causing spiders to withdraw and birds to vomit. LCBs likely protect the beetles from other common predators such as bats and mice as well.

A single *Photinus* male is enough to protect a female *Photuris*, but she must continue to woo and eat males because she passes the LCB with her eggs, thereby protecting them from predation. Certain *Photinus* species have caught on. A cautious male will land out of the female's reach as he mimics her signal, thus confusing rival males while giving him time to scrutinize her.

These fireflies exemplify an evolutionary arms race, as well as the procurement of defensive chemicals for one's own use, a common, but usually less aggressive, strategy.



Fauna Cabala

Fauna. *n.* animal life.

Cabala. *n.* an esoteric, secret matter or mysterious art.

Romance among fireflies can be deadly. These luminescent beetles, who have photochemical equipment at the tips of their abdomens, flash species-specific signals to announce their readiness to mate. Males fly about flaunting elaborate flashes while females, lounging in the bushes, reply with a single blink. The length of time a female waits before signaling is her species-specific password. If the delay is appropriate, a male of the same species lands and mating occurs.

Females of several *Photuris* species, however, have broken the codes of other fireflies. They mimic the female signals of a few *Photinus* species (both genera inhabit the US and South America). Male *Photinus* land, believing they are about to mate and are devoured. The *femme fatales* not

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Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or clearly printed. Send a SASE if you would like them returned. If you want confirmation of receipt of a submission, please request it. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via e-mail. Art or photographs are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. (Prints are best, negatives are good, slides are fair.) They will be returned if requested.

All submissions are edited for length and clarity. If an article is significantly edited, we will make a reasonable effort to contact the author prior to publication.

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SCHEDULE

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July 11

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August 24

Auto-Free Yourself

BY JAN LUNDBERG

Meeting after meeting, fair weather or foul, clandestine or public, Earth First!ers generally come and go by car. Bicycles and public transport are seldom used. At best, activists carpool a lot and allegedly put their cars to lofty uses. Yet the US car fleet is the number one source of global climate-changing CO₂ and the main source of ozone-layer depleting chlorofluorocarbons.

The nomadic culture of living with a car or depending on drivers is too large a factor in today's activist movement. Unfortunately, good activists who have opted out of "upward mobility" tend to hold onto their cars in order to maintain a particular lifestyle. Going to the forests or the next action is so much a car exercise that driving is in effect acceptable, whereas eating a single hamburger is a far bigger no-no.

Even a lot of car-dependent activists admit there is room for change. But the importance of saving a certain grove or moving back to the land, i.e. far from any bus service, excuses car dependency in their minds. Meanwhile, a totally meaningful rebellion against car culture is avoided. Knowing what we know about the vanishing natural environment and the causes, 1970s-style piecemeal environmental action does not suffice.

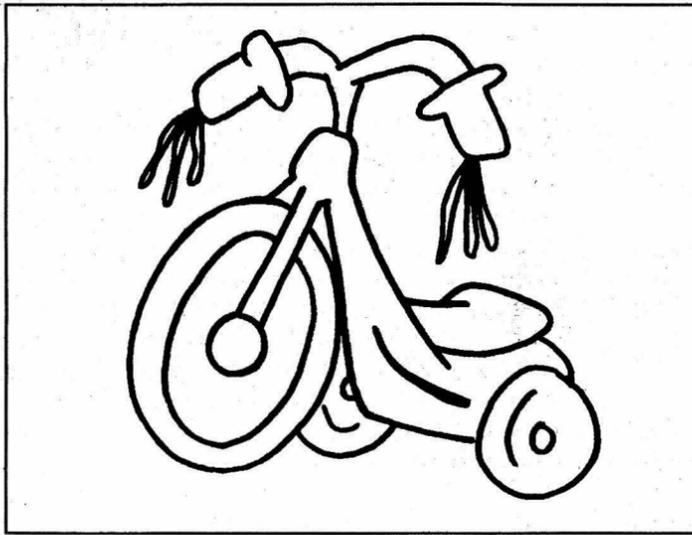
Picture an almost completely auto-free Earth First! that uses cars only in the case of emergency. Driving isn't good outreach. If activists gave up their car addictions, the public would see activists up close and have a chance to interact with them. Most Earth First! rendezvous could be in or near urban areas, allowing contact with more people and addressing climate issues.

What would the Earth First! movement be without its car habit? Well, getting rid of 100 percent of our cars would cut down on most actions carried out today. But other actions, including the example of car-free daily living, would be feasible. Guerrilla depaving may come into vogue: Food could be planted, à la the Diggers, and then defended with civil disobedience. This would ques-

tion property rights and create community.

If an Earth First! with 90-percent fewer cars were to maintain its current campaigns, perhaps serious environmentalism would become synonymous with being car free. The few EF! cars still left could be used for essential purposes: picking up people from wilderness actions, dropping off a time sensitive recording to a major media outlet, etc.

No activist putting the Earth first should sweep under the rug the fact that cars are weapons of mass destruction: Driving is violence. It pollutes, kills animals and funds the crude and oily corporations



that despoiled Alaska's Prince William Sound and contributed to the execution of environmental activists in Nigeria.

Nonetheless, cars, even during this war-for-oil era, don't evoke an emotional response among many good activists, compared to issues like road kill. Lesser evils get much more attention, despite the million animals a day slaughtered on US roads, a number greater than the total killed by animal-pound executions, hunting and vivisection combined.

Focusing on place of beauty and species diversity when they are threatened by roads, bulldozers and other vehicles toting chainsaws, etc. is essential for saving our local and global environment. But many

activists, especially the usually car-owning leaders, too often unwittingly and counter-productively limit their action to piecemeal and possibly pointless objectives. This happens when the big picture is ignored, i.e. the certainty of climate change combined with the gross overpopulation of humans, especially polluters. Driving a car more than, say, once a month is the kind of self-deception that belongs in the long-gone days of early environmental innocence, not today.

Global warming and ozone-layer depletion are probably going to fry the forests, and the main factor in those threats is not clearcuts, but motor vehicles. Thinking about the planet's whole ecosystem, it could be that the loss of Headwaters forest would not render the global climate as warmed as a NAFTA Superhighway.

Additionally, whether we're walking our talk with the car issue or not, the easy tendency to vilify one greedy soul and one corporate plunderer (Charles Hurwitz and Maxxam Corp., for example) may serve to mislead mainstream people into thinking that it's not wasteful, polluting consumers who are driving the forests to extinction. The national lifestyle has to change radically, or Headwaters and the planet do not have a chance.

Being anti-car is not our main purpose at the Alliance for a Paving Moratorium. We primarily fight roads and point to alternatives such as car-free living and pedal-powered produce delivery. In our office we are not completely pure, as we utilize machines and nonrenewable resources. We have a website you can check out on some pollution box. Besides on-line fact-sheets, there's a roundup of the Kyoto Climate Change Conference from the standpoint of roadfighting and dissing cars and trucks.

Let's look ahead to a revitalized activist movement that may somehow grow rapidly, instead of counting hollow victories and then driving or carpooling to the next meeting, concert or party.

Jan Lundberg helps publish and edit the Auto-Free Times. Contact the Alliance for a Paving Moratorium at POB 4347, Arcata, CA 95518; (707) 826-7775; <http://www.BikeRoute.com/AutoFree>. Membership in the APM comes with a subscription.

dear shit for brains

Hey folks,

Warm greeting from the Big Island. After observing the way Goddess Pele can wipe out roads and infrastructure faster than a New York second, I was thinking we should try and get Her on our side. What do you think? Can I have permission to invite Her to the RRR?
Cheers,

—Al D.

Dear EF!

Garth Kahl's "Rethinking the Border" (May-June 1998) is a thoughtful and intelligent look at the population/immigration question. Kahl is absolutely correct that dogmatic "politically correct" leftist ideologues such as Alexander Cockburn cloud the debate with absurd charges of racism leveled at those who support both birth control and immigration control.

Regardless of one's position

on the Sierra Club ballot initiative, overpopulation remains the primary force behind virtually all threats of life on Earth. And the last thing the Earth needs is an increasing number of Americans, the world's most prolific consumers, regardless of race or background.

—HOWIE WOLKE

BITTERROOT MOUNTAINS, MONTANA

Dear SFB:

I was glad to see Garth Kahl's article "Rethinking the Border," about the need to discuss the possibility of closing our borders, or at the very least reducing immigration. Our ecological integrity is unraveling quickly enough that surely we need to discuss all possible remedies.

I do not believe, however, it would be appropriate for us to close our borders, in great measure because such an action

would be clearly racist and classist (what color, and how poor, are most of the immigrants to whom many "close the border" advocates object?). It would also be simply too ironic for a culture that invaded this continent, and that rules it by force, to disallow others to enter.

There is one condition under which I would fully approve of this country closing our borders to immigrants: if we simultaneously close our borders to the raw materials we expropriate (in polite society this is called "import") from these same peoples. To close our borders to the people while still stealing from them the resources they need to live would merely be the next cruel stage in the long and awful history of colonialism and imperialism that is destroying the planet.

Sure, close the borders, but close them first to the stolen property

that fuels our industrial economy.

Thanks,

—DERRICK JENSEN

Dear Earth First! readers,

There is much to be considered before dividing ourselves over who is racist: Sierra Club or Michael Dorsey. First of all, the reason for which most immigrants, especially from Mexico, are coming here reaches far beyond their desire for better life. In many of the rural areas of Mexico their soil and water are polluted by the greed of ourselves here in America.

Last year in Durango, Colorado, a group of "illegal immigrants" broke down (mind you there were 26 people riding in one van—a bit different from the American paradigm). When they were asked why they left Mexico I found it was for



Photo by S. Hanks

the same reasons my ancestors left Ireland to come here in the 1840s, people are starving to death! Lettuce doesn't grow in polluted soil. It absorbs the toxins and dies.

So as we sit in our houses with electricity to heat it, our gas powered stove to cook the food we bought around the corner, yeah it sure is easy to praise the Sierra Club for its strong opposition to Mexican immigration. Oops! I mean population growth...

—KRISTEN MURPHY
SAN LUIS, CO

continued on page 28

MAHESHWAR

Thousands Occupy Dam Site (Again)

BY SUSANNE WONG

The Indian government continues to brutally suppress the peaceful resistance to the construction of the \$436-million Maheshwar Dam in the state of Madhya Pradesh. Following months of escalating tension, police violently attacked and arrested over 200 people on May 20 in Gandhinagar, Maheshwar, one of seven locations where people have acted as human barricades to block construction equipment and supplies from entering the dam site.

Since October, protesters from more than 60 villages have, on numerous occasions, occupied the dam site in an effort to force the government to agree to their demands. After initially capitulating, the government has reneged on promises made to the protesters to stop dam construction until a review of the project's costs and benefits could be completed. Among the concerns of the protesters is the project's lack of environmental impact studies and resettlement plans, as well as the lack of public participation in the planning process. One of more than 3,000 dams planned for the Narmada River

as part of the Narmada Valley Development Project, the Maheshwar Dam would submerge over 5,000 hectares of land and displace 2,200 families.

Preliminary work on Maheshwar began in 1996. Scheduled to be completed in 2002, the concession to build and operate the 400-megawatt dam was given to S. Kumars, a textile firm with no experience in dam building. The company is receiving public subsidies and guarantees to ensure that private investors will make a profit. As a result, the sizable financial risks of the project are being borne by the public.

Following a year-long struggle, the Madhya Pradesh government on January 30, 1998, conceded to the demands of *Narmada Bachao Andolan* (Save the Narmada Movement or NBA) and issued a written order announcing that it would suspend construction on the dam pending a comprehensive review of its costs, benefits and alternatives. Following this action, the NBA called off a 21-day dam site occupation by thousands of local people.

The task force assigned with completing this review was originally established to review the entire Narmada Valley Development Project. At a special meeting of

the task force on March 4, 1998, S. Kumars urged the government to allow construction to resume at Maheshwar for "safety purposes." Skeptical about the motives of S. Kumars and certain that this move was to reassure investors the project would not be significantly delayed, the NBA opposed this request. Nevertheless, the government gave in and issued a notification allowing the continuation of "any work for the purposes of safety and resettlement."

The actions of the Indian government triggered



March '98 rally at Maheshwar Dam

further dam site occupations. On April 22, over 4,000 people penetrated police barricades to stop construction until the project was fully reviewed. Despite sweltering heat, police blocked the protesters' access to clean drinking water and shelter, forcing people to drink oil-contaminated river water. That evening, police arrested those remaining at the site, bringing the day's arrests to a total of 1,200 protesters.

The following day, hundreds more protesters dodged police barricades and once again took over the dam site. The police, without warning or provocation, reacted violently, repeatedly beating the protesters with batons and rifle butts, charging them on horseback and making sexual epithets against female protesters. By evening, over 2,000 people were in jail and at least 23 hospitalized. Many badly beaten protesters were taken to jail without being treated.

Since early May, seven blockades of 30 to 50 people each at key entry points to the dam site have successfully slowed construction. Desperate to resume work and prove to nervous investors that the project would not be delayed, S. Kumars has pushed the government to mobilize thousands of police in the area. After the arrests on May 20, about 15 trucks were able to penetrate the blockades and deliver construction supplies to the dam site.

Nevertheless, protesters have announced their determination to continue the blockade, and at press time hundreds of people were traveling towards the site to replace those arrested. The ongoing protests have been organized with the help of the NBA, India's premier dam-fighting organization. The NBA is best known for its struggle against the infamous Sardar Sarovar Dam and has been leading the movement against the Maheshwar Dam.

The police brutality and government misdealing have been condemned in a declaration signed by more than 186 human rights, environment, women's and labour organizations from India and 35 other countries. This declaration calls for the government to cease the repression at Maheshwar and for companies to withdraw until the demands of the people are met.

In an important victory, the vice president of US-based Pacificorps Development Company, which had worked on financing the project, announced that the company did "not intend to participate further in the [Maheshwar] project." He added that if Pacificorps were to reevaluate the project in the future, "it would only be under the condition that the needs of the mass of effected people be properly addressed and consensus regarding how the project proceeds [be] reached by all stakeholders, including *Narmada Bachao Andolan*." [See Pacificorps article on page 7.]

Pacificorps had been expected to hold or underwrite nearly half the shares in the project company through its subsidiary PacGen. Recently, Pacificorps sold off PacGen, but it has retained all overseas interests of PacGen, including Maheshwar.

To help the struggle, write the Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister calling upon him to stop work at the project, withdraw the police and immediately resume the task force's review: Digvijay Singh, Chief Minister, Vallabh Bhavan, Bhopal; fax 91 755 540 501.

For more information, contact Susanne Wong, International Rivers Network, 1847 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94703; (510) 848-1155, fax 848-1008; swong@irn.org; <http://www.irn.org>.

Victory Over SOLCARSA

After a long battle, the Korean multinational SOLCARSA withdrew from Nicaragua on March 31. SOLCARSA had invested \$15 million in the region to develop infrastructure to log indigenous lands. SOLCARSA's logging concession would have destroyed 150,000 acres of rainforest to make plywood. International solidarity, court action and indigenous resistance were key in forcing SOLCARSA back across the ocean.

In early February, the Nicaraguan Supreme Court found for the second time that the SOLCARSA concessions were illegal. The Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources then declared the concessions closed. SOLCARSA was also repeatedly refused entry into the area by indigenous Mayangna from the Wakamby area. In addition, poor management and the instability of the Korean stock market had bankrupt SOLCARSA parent corporation Kum Kyung by the end of November 1997.

SOLCARSA's departure follows in the wake of reports by Managua's *Centro Alexander von Humboldt* that, "The forest fires in Nicaragua this year have been six times more [frequent] as they were in 1995. Almost all fires have occurred in the Atlantic Coast. The Bosawas Reserve saw up to 30,000 hectares on fire and the Indio Maiz Reserve as well. All the country is gloomy because so much smoke clouds the atmosphere. For at least four days the airport has been closed during the last two weeks."

Nicaraguan environmental groups and non-governmental organizations



Logging on SOLCARSA's concession near Wakamby in the Northern Atlantic Autonomous Region

hailed the SOLCARSA victory while calling for the company to resolve the loose ends of its withdrawal. Not least among those ends is the company's failure to pay three months of wages to 150 workers. Likewise, the company abandoned its sawmill and plywood processing plant. There is great concern over the potential that SOLCARSA will sell the operation to another extractive company.

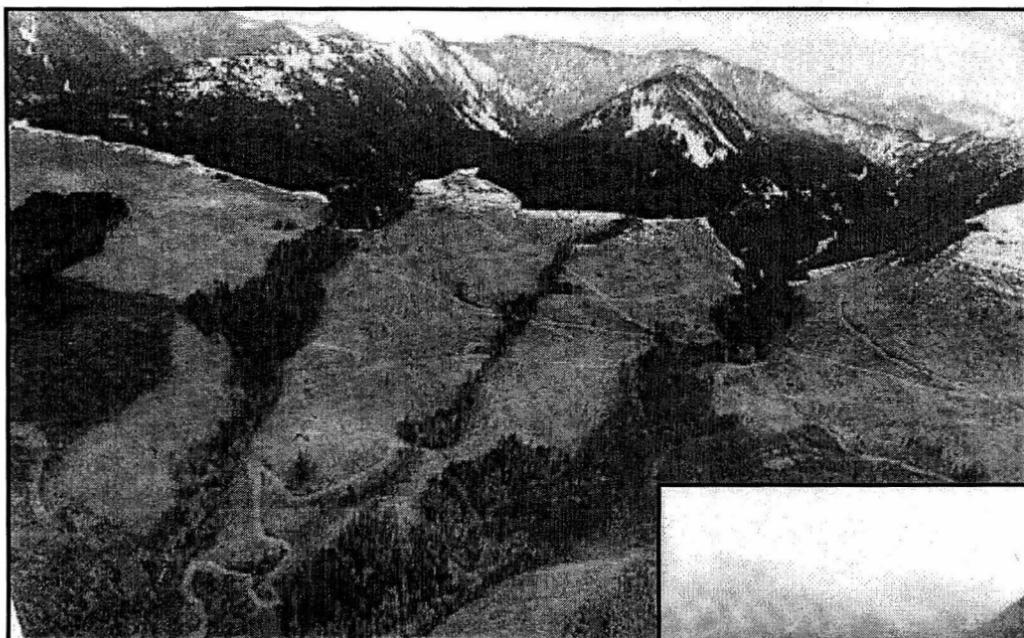
Write the Nicaraguan government and stress that the SOLCARSA concession reveals weaknesses in the government's ability to protect Nicaragua's environment. Insist that there be no further concessions on indigenous lands. President Aleman, Casa de la Presidencia, Managua, Nicaragua; fax 011 505 228 7911.

RESURRECTING Gondwana

BY PHIL KNIGHT, NATIVE FOREST NETWORK

In the early '60s, at the peak of whale hunting, a group of visionaries dreamed of a gigantic whale sanctuary where the huge sea mammals could find refuge from persecution, enjoy stable population growth and avoid extinction. Few people believed in the dream, much less that it would come true 30-years later.

Antarctica, the last undeveloped continent on Earth, is also now protected as a world park, with all involved countries agreeing to a 50-year moratorium on development.



Trillium's clearcut legacy in Washington

A few inhabitants of the southern valleys of Patagonia also share a dream. Gathered behind a program called *Proyecto Lemu* (Project Forest), they have joined forces with *Los Defensores del Bosque Chileno* and *Fundación Lahuen* on the other side of the Andes. Together these groups launched the idea of an all-encompassing sanctuary for sub-Antarctic forests, to be called the Gondwana Forests Sanctuary. This visionary concept is now embraced by a growing and determined coalition of forest defenders around the globe.

The Gondwana Forests Sanctuary encompasses the sub-Antarctic forests of Patagonia, Tierra del Fuego, New Zealand, Australia, Tasmania, New Guinea, New Caledonia and New Britain. The sanctuary would primarily protect the *Nothofagus* genus of trees (southern beech), as well as ancient forests of araucaria, alerce and other unique and imperiled species. Gondwanaland is the name of the ancient supercontinent that originally joined these forested territories during the Eocene era more than 100-million years ago. Even today, the forests of these southern areas are both biologically similar and severely threatened by large-scale commercial logging and woodchipping by a host of multinational corporations.

In April, forest activists and scientists from Chile, Argentina, New Zealand, Scotland and the US met in Chile to launch the Gondwana Forest Sanctuary Campaign "to protect, reconnect and restore the life of Gondwana by creating an international sanctuary of Earth's southernmost forests."

We visited some of these incredible ancient forests while in Chile and Argentina. Herquehue National Park, in Chile's Lake District, shelters a fantastic array of huge coihue trees, with immense spreading crowns draped with vines, moss and lichens, sheltering an understory of bamboo-like kila. Higher in the park, above small lakes cradled among steep green mountains and granite cliffs, rise immense stands of araucaria. These bizarre trees give the entire landscape an incredibly ancient and exotic air. Their leaves are more like spiny scales, covering their entire umbrella-like crown in prickly armor. Their thick bark forms plates like the skin of a dinosaur. Far off through the forest we saw the alluring white cone of Volcan Villarica.

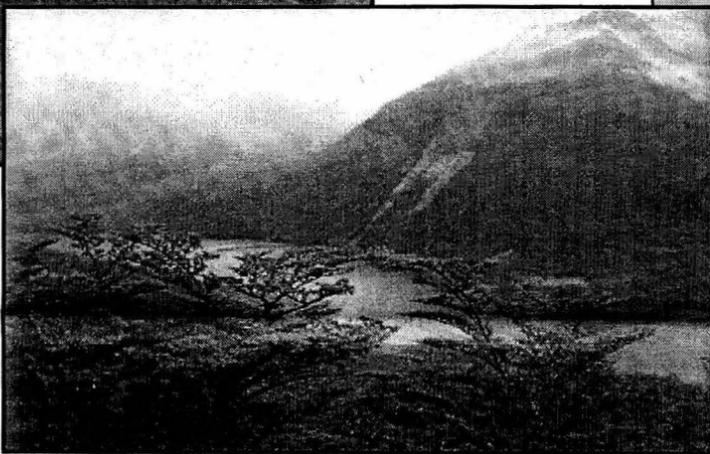
The Cani Sanctuary in Chile provides a microcosmic example of how these increasingly rare and precious forests can be conserved and restored. Due to be logged in 1990, the 500 hectares of the Cani

were instead purchased with the assistance of Ancient Forest International. *Fundación Lahuen*, Chile's first non-governmental organization dedicated exclusively to forest protection and conservation, now administers the Cani and associated projects, including a native tree nursery at Pichares (the first in Chile) and local education projects in which schoolchildren raise and plant native trees.

While in Argentine Patagonia, we made a day trip to Los Alerces National Park, which was deserted except for a wild boar poacher. While we did not get to the famous but remote forests of alerce, the southern version of the redwood, we were mesmerized by the

beautiful string of clear lakes and rivers alive with waterfowl, mirroring the green cypress forests and crimson lenga trees. Graceful, madrone-like arrayan trees lined the lakes and rivers, and colorful edible berries abounded.

The first goal of the Gondwana



Tierra del Fuego, Chile

Forest Sanctuary Campaign is to protect the remaining primary forests in Tierra del Fuego, comprising the southernmost forests on Earth, in both Chile and Argentina. These sub-Antarctic forests are currently threatened by the \$200-million Rio Condor logging project initiated by the US-based Trillium Corp. (see accompanying article). Composed of 360,000 hectares of 10,000-year-old lenga forest (*Nothofagus pumilio*), a wide-ranging, well-adapted deciduous southern beech tree, this boreal forest region is highly fragile.

The Gondwana campaign intends to create an international system of intercontinental forest reserves starting at the tip of South America, in Tierra del Fuego, and spreading northward and outward. Tierra del Fuego will serve as the model for the Gondwana campaign, which seeks to prepare a comprehensive bi-national forest preservation and land use plan for this huge island. This effort will bring together an interdisciplinary team of economists, anthropologists, archeologists, foresters, geologists, biologists, appropriate technology/permaculture consultants and local representatives. Its purpose is to guide communities away from large-scale industrial development projects like Rio Condor.

Efforts are also underway to create a "Trans-Andean Wildlands Complex," potentially one of the world's largest protected areas (5,000,000 hectares), 1,000 miles to the north.

For further information on the Gondwana Forests Sanctuary Campaign contact Rick Klein/Dave Walsh, Ancient Forest International, POB 1850, Redway, CA 95560; (707) 923-3015; afi@igc.apc.org. NFN Yellowstone, Phil Knight, POB 6151, Bozeman, MT, 59771; (406) 586-3885; pknight@wildrockies.org. In Australia: John Seed, Rainforest Information Centre, POB 368 Lismore, NSW 2480, Australia; jseed@igc.org.

TRILLIUM in a Forest Near You!

BY PAT RASMUSSEN

The 10,000-year-old lenga forest on the island of Tierra del Fuego will become a tree farm if Trillium Corporation of Washington state has its way. In 1994, Trillium purchased 625,000 acres of forest on the Chilean side of the island for the Rio Condor project and 75,000 acres on the Argentinian side for the Lenga Patagonia project. Graciela Ramacciotti of *Finisterrae*, a forest protection organization, says, "There is only one place forest can grow on the island, and Trillium owns it."

For the past four years, Chileans and Argentinians have fought the Trillium projects. Over 200 Chilean environmental organizations have united in the Alliance for the Chilean Forests to campaign "for the forests at the end of the world." They have gathered over 40,000 signatures, asking for the primary forest on Tierra del Fuego to be protected and all logging projects to be in secondary forests instead. According to Trillium's consultant, at least 90 percent of the project is now in ancient forest.

The Rio Condor Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the Chilean side was rejected by the Chilean Supreme Court. Trillium rewrote the EIS, into which it added some fictional trees

and increased the number of hectares to be cut, then asked the Council of Ministers to approve the revised version. In early June, the revised EIS was accepted. On June 5, 15 people were arrested in a Greenpeace demonstration protesting the approval.

On the Argentinian side, environmentalists caught Trillium building a road illegally and got the courts to stop the road construction.

In April, Washington forest activists flew over Trillium's clearcut lands east of Bellingham, Washington, to photograph the real Trillium, then flew to Santiago with the photos for the People's Summit concurrent with the Second Summit of

the Americas. Apparently worried that the project might be rejected, Bob Manne, Trillium's Tierra del Fuego project manager and vice president of Plum Creek Timber Company, and David Syhre, head of Trillium, have been traveling the area advocating for approval. In Argentina, the EIS has not been finished, yet Trillium is pressuring the environmental authority to hold public hearings and grant approval. Argentinian activists got a court injunction to stop them temporarily, and on May 16 an Argentinian magistrate issued an injunction citing a shortage of data for the EIS.

Last fall, back in the States, Trillium sold the bulk of its Bellingham properties to Crown Pacific. Bellingham environmentalist Steve Walker says, "Coming as it does on the heels of the company's 1990s clearcutting, the sale offers final proof that Trillium has always been in the business of liquidation forestry, rather than responsible, long-term management... Ironically, Trillium will use the proceeds of the sale to further the company's South America agenda. What hubris, to destroy the forests of home, take the money half the planet away to industrialize some of the world's last remaining native forest lands, and call it sustainable! Observers of Trillium's South American activities would be well advised to balance the company's assurances against the record it has established at home. This cut-and-run action is not the first time Trillium has opted for quick cash over long-term management."

These treasured southernmost forests on the planet are the oldest on Earth. The Gondwana Forest Sanctuary Campaign seeks to protect them. The ancient lenga forests of Tierra del Fuego must be protected as part of this sanctuary.

Occupation Forces Feds Out of Ward Valley

the State Continues to Fight for Control

David Burns, Department of Interior police, stepped from his white Chevy Blazer with a benign, almost bemused, expression on his face. Six-foot tall, tanned, athletic and balding, he walked toward the van where Steve Lopez, a spokesperson for the Colorado River Native Nations Alliance, waited to receive a five-day eviction notice.

Before reaching the van, he saw a familiar face, a Quechan man named Preston Arrowweed.

"Hello, David. It's good to see you, my friend," called out the bronzed, middle-aged Indian man.

"Hello, Preston. Good to see you also," replied Burns.

"You know why we are here, and you know that we will not be moved. In fact, I am prepared to die if necessary in order to protect this land that was sacred to our ancestors and is likewise sacred to us. And David, if I must die here, I want you to do me the honor of firing the bullet that ends my life."

David Burns looked Preston Arrowweed straight in the eye, shuffling his feet a bit. Arrowweed continued, "David, we have known each other for many years. I know you are a good man. That's why I want you to do me this honor and no one else. And one other thing... Don't stop with me, but shoot us all dead. Because if you put a nuclear waste dump on this land, you might as well kill us."

The occupation of Ward Valley (*Silyaye Aheace* in Mojave language) by approximately 200 native and non-native activists is in its fourth month. Recently, Ward Valley activists celebrated an important victory when the Department of Interior (DOI) agreed to halt tests at the Ward Valley nuclear waste site because it believes that the California Department of Health Services (CDHS) lacks the authority to buy the land.

In 1991, CDHS attempted to buy the land from the Bureau of Land Management with a gift of

\$500,000 from US Ecology, the company that would operate the dump. This ethically questionable land transfer is commonly understood by dump opponents as California Governor Pete Wilson's last ditch attempt to avoid legislative scrutiny of the dump and land transfer. Wilson's only chance now is that a court hearing about CDHS' ability to

vents US Ecology from completing tests. The tribes maintain that no further testing is needed because there will be no nuclear waste dump on the sacred land. The most recent DOI ruling reaffirms their position.

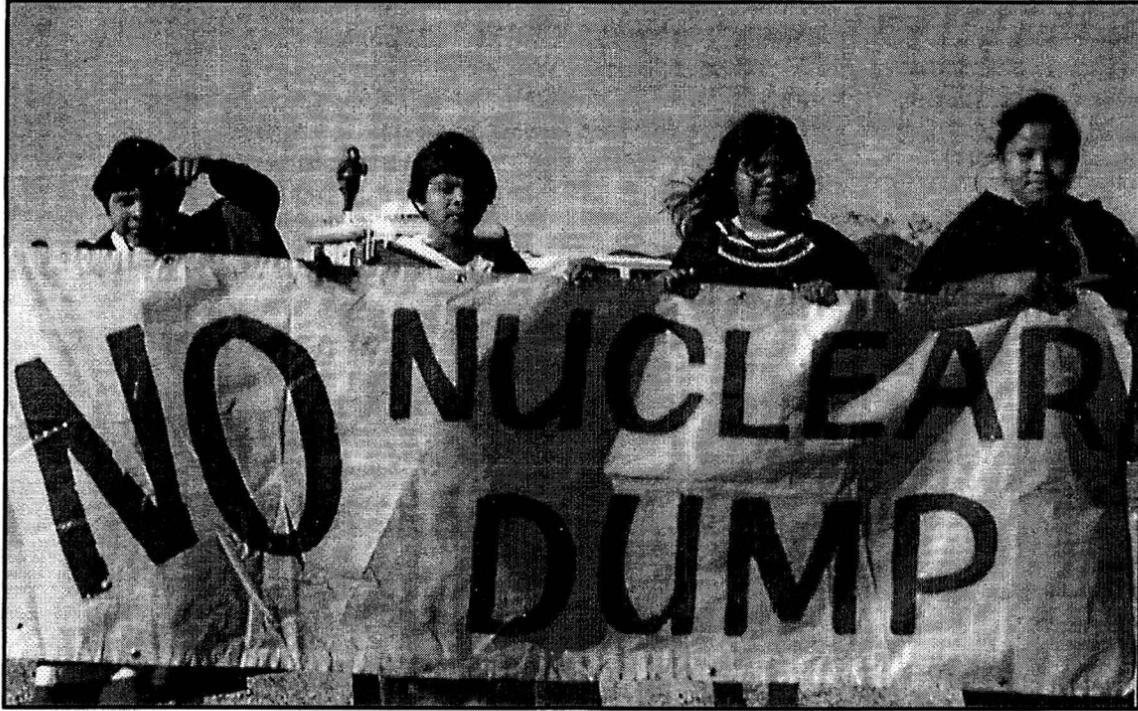
Tribal elders hold sacred ceremonies on site around the clock. The American Indian Movement provides security for the "village." Though the spirit is often light-hearted, this is an intensely serious matter. The camp is stopping some of the most dangerous wastes produced by our high-consumption, high-tech civilization from being buried.

At this point, protesters say they will continue the occupation while celebrating the partial victory. Much of the credit goes to the encampment and its ceremonies.

Supporters are asked to join elders and tribal members in the occupation to protect ongoing religious ceremonies at the site. To find out how you can become a resi-

dent of *Silyaye Aheace* (even for just a short time) contact Save Ward Valley. If you can't come, please support the village by sending food, supplies and money. Some of the things especially needed now include two-channel UHF radios, propane or solar-powered refrigeration, extra tents, sleeping bags and hats. For a more complete list, contact Save Ward Valley, 107 F St. Needles, CA 92363; (760) 326-6267; fax 326-6268; swv1@ctaz.com, <http://www.shundahai.org/SWVAction.html>; <http://earthrunner.com/savewardvalle>; <http://www.ctaz.com/~swv1>; <http://banwaste.envirolink.org>.

—DAN HAMBURG AND SAVE WARD VALLEY



Children demand a halt to the dump at a recent blockade

acquire the land will go his way on June 17.

Wilson says the site, 20 miles from the Colorado River, is necessary to store the state's low-level nuclear waste from nuclear plants, hospitals and clinics. But anti-nuclear groups, Colorado River Indian tribes and Democratic leaders such as US Senator Barbara Boxer say the possible seepage from the site would threaten the Colorado River, the threatened desert tortoise and the land sacred to many Colorado River tribes.

Meanwhile, the occupation of the site is being conducted under the strict guidance of tribal elders from the five Colorado River Indian Nations: Fort Mojave, Colorado River, Cocopah, Chemehuevi and Quechan. The occupation pre-

Wolves & Poodles

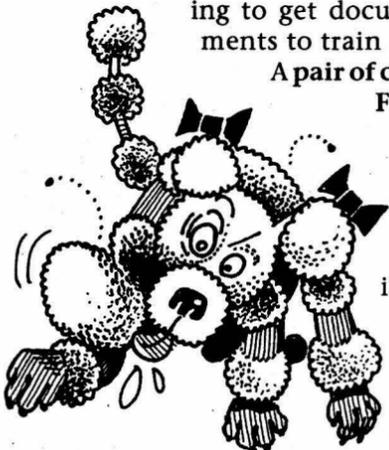
A dead poodle hanging from a barbed-wire fence to Bruce Babbitt for killing coyotes. Sixty-seven coyotes were shot by Animal Damage Control aerial gunners on land owned by Babbitt's family north of Flagstaff, Arizona. Their excuse for shooting the coyotes was to "protect antelope fawns."

A poodle full of holes to the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the city of Bethany, Oklahoma, for killing over 200 great egrets. City employees were armed with shotguns and a permit from the USFWS to kill 500 *cattle* egrets, but, not surprisingly, the untrained city employees killed the wrong birds.

A patchouli-drenched poodle with nappy dreads to Gifford Pinchot National Forest timber sale planner Dennis Seidman for naming a timber sale "Jammin'" in memory of Jerry Garcia. That's kinda like honoring Ralph Nader by naming a car "the Advocate" in his honor.

A poodle with its ear caught in the door to the US Navy for attempting to hack into an English marine-mammal preservation group's website. The Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society was alerted to the attempted break-in by their site-host company on April 28. The US Navy was attempting to get documents pertaining to Russian animal experiments to train dolphins.

A pair of copulating poodles caught in the act to two US Forest Service appeal judges who "coached" Black Hills National Forest officials on how to skirt a pending timber sale appeal. Instead of dealing forthrightly with legitimate concerns from the public, the regional appeal judges coached the Forest Service on ways to dodge issues with mere word changes. For the Coyote timber sale on the Black Hills National Forest in South Dakota, the wording changed, but the decision remained the same. This timber sale decision has been appealed to Forest Service Chief Michael Dombeck.



A wolf with its eye on some four-legged dinner to the Student Environmental Action Coalition in Moscow, Idaho, for its campaign to buy state grazing allotments. SEAC-Idaho plans to restore the allotments and use them for educational projects. However, the state Land Board has denied SEAC's bids (so far), even when there have been no others.

A proud alpha wolf sleeping late on this Father's Day to those men who had the balls to get their balls disconnected. As Earth heads toward a population of six bagillion, and we all ponder how fucking miserable that's going to be, just remember to say, "thanks"—not to Dad, but to a non-Dad. Get him a card, a cup of coffee or some cinnamon toast. Show him you appreciate his sacrifice. Ask to hear the story, ask to see the little scars. But most important, just say thanks for giving up Father's Day so there could be fewer little tykes eatin' and shittin' their way into the future.

A pack of wolves on the attack to the buck who stole a chainsaw in a small town in Norway. The large stag knocked over garbage cans at a child-care center, threatened cars and frightened residents of Aardalstangen for weeks. One day, the renegade herbivore spotted a chainsaw, picked it up with its antlers and ran off with it. Local officials sentenced the unruly ungulate to death for the theft.

A big high-mountain wolf to the conservationists who halted a massive monkey kill in Mankha, Nepal. Widespread protests and official intervention compelled Mankha villagers to give up their plan to kill 500 monkeys. The monkeys raid the village's crops so the villagers formed a monkey-killing squad armed with swords, knives, sticks and guns.

A loud wolf who can't be stopped from howling to Renee Galleano-Popp, the latest Forest Service biologist to quit in disgust. After 20 years, Renee resigned her position on the Lincoln National Forest in southern New Mexico, decrying the abuses of livestock grazing and logging in the Southwest. She stated, "Range management is a corpse on life support, and no one will pull the plug... Motivation to get the job done appears to come and go with litigation... the accountability system, the line organization, the tolerances and the reward system we have are not working to get the American public and the Earth's biodiversity what they deserve."



CANADA'S SEAL BUTCHERS RETURN

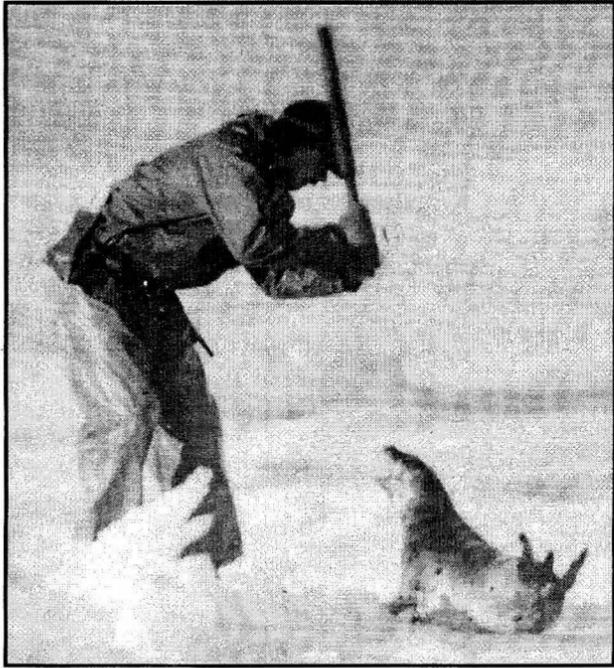
Frontlines

BY ANDREW CHRISTIE

The brutal ritual of the Canadian seal hunt recurred this spring as the Western harp and hooded seals made their annual migration from the Arctic to ice floes on the northeast Atlantic seaboard. Once fueled by a demand for pelts and oil, a new Far East market for seal penis aphrodisiacs have driven the Canadian government to invest more than ever in the seal slaughter.

This year the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) sanctioned the killing of 285,000 seals, the highest kill quota since they were first established in the early 1970s. But even this astounding figure doesn't represent the true number of seals killed. Sealers only recover about one out of every three they attack. It is estimated that this year's true mortality rate will exceed more than half a million seals.

Ice conditions this year, the worst on record in over a century, have raised natural pup mortality. Most years, the ice floes in the Gulf of St. Lawrence form a floating nursery. If the ice is too thin or the floes too small, the seals give birth in the water and the pups drown. They are often the lucky ones. The ice shortage has caused seals to crawl onto the beaches of Prince Edward Island,



A mother seal vainly defends herself.

where the locals are extraordinarily brutal.

Anonymous locals on the island, who fear retaliation, report individuals cutting off the flippers of several pups, rolling them over with their feet, kicking them and leaving them to bleed to death. The flippers were later seen hanging like trophies from pickup trucks. There have been numerous reports of seals skinned alive, penises tied to car radio antennas and an incident in which an adult seal, half skinned and still alive, was dragged behind a truck while the four blood-covered occupants in the cab yelled out the windows. The DFO continues to deny knowledge of these violations, and authorities routinely release perpetrators for lack of evidence, despite witnesses' statements.

But the poor ice conditions produced one positive effect: There was only one ice floe of any size and consistency

in the gulf, making it less complicated to defend the seals.

On March 15, the *Sea Shepherd III* became the first conservation vessel since 1983 to enter the Canadian Maritimes during Canada's annual harp seal hunt. (The last ship to do so in '83 was the *Sea Shepherd II*, greeted by police tear-gas attacks and arrests all around.) Then as now, the Coast Guard was on alert, and police helicopters were aloft—the might of a nation mustered to ensure the slaughter of 285,000 seals. For over a week, while constantly shadowed by a pair of Coast Guard ice breakers, the *Sea Shepherd III* anchored itself in the midst of the largest seal nursery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence to watch over the flock. Only one sealing ship appeared while the *Sea Shepherd III* was on duty, and it quickly left the area. Unfortunately, when the *Seashepherd III* left, the blood bath ensued.

To preserve the delicate political balance of the seal hunt, the government blunts international outrage by preventing the world from witnessing the level of barbarity and chaos under which the seal hunt actually operates. Thus, it is illegal for non-hunters to approach the seal hunt within a half-nautical mile without a special permit.

Reber & Co., the giant Norwegian-subsidized seal processor, is one of the economic forces driving the seal hunt today, along with the demand for aphrodisiacs in Asian markets. The Canadian government's politically motivated objective of eliminating the harp seal aims to appease voters in the traditional fishing provinces, who believe that the seals are responsible for the collapse of eastern Canada's fish stocks.

The pelts are sold to Asian fisheries with the seal penises attached; it's only legal to sell penises as a by-product of harvesting

pelts. But the pelts are discarded, and the penises powdered for inclusion in aphrodisiacs or sold whole in gift boxes for \$100 to \$400 a pop.

No one really knows how many harp seals there are off the east coast of Canada. The Canadian government currently assures everyone that the harp seal herd is not endangered and vaguely estimates their numbers between four million and 10 million. Canada is supposed to conduct an annual seal census every year prior to the hunt but hasn't bothered to do so since 1994. Due to the extremely poor ice conditions, it won't do one this year either. Instead, it goes right on assigning kill quotas without current figures on population and rate of reproduction. Even if the high end of Canada's best guess is correct, abundance has generally been no match for the stupidity, greed and arrogance of the people behind the industry.

For more information contact the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society at POB 628, Venice, CA 90294; (310) 301-SEAL(7325); fax 574-3161; seashepherd@seashepherd.org.



AND THEN THE FOREST SERVICE MADE THE FATAL MISTAKE OF SELLING SMOKEY THE BEAR AS A SPOKESPERSON FOR VIAGRA.

Smokey Bear—traitor to his species or captive love slave of the US Forest Service? It's a question every serious activist ponders and troubles over.

Few know, however, that Smokey is modeled after a real bear encountered by K.D. Flock, an Idaho native, while supervising a New Mexico forest in the 1940s. The first Smokey was a cub hurt in a fire. K.D. promoted this Smokey as successor to the cartoon character that the US Forest Service was using to promul-

gate safety warnings to youngsters. Fifty-four years later, two generations of American children have grown up on Smokey's warnings.

Now the Smokey legacy has a pricetag. To aid in selling cars, Subaru America swapped \$1.6 million in cash and car loans to the Forest Service. Subaru provided \$35,000 in cash and loaned the Forest Service 34 new vehicles for two years.

But the Forest Service canceled the agreement after it was condemned as a violation of Department of Agriculture policy by Rodger C. Viadero, USDA

inspector general and a Smokey fan.

House Resources Committee Chairman Don Young, R-Alaska, said to USFS Chief Michael Dombeck, "Anyone knows you can't sell Smokey Bear, and you sold him—for a cheap price, I might add."

Dombeck responded: "There were some errors made." Forest Subcommittee Chairman Helen Chenoweth, R-Idaho, also got in her licks, "Who is going to prevent the Forest Service from pandering and misusing its resources?" It's nice to see that Helen feels Smokey's pain.

SMOKEY SELLS OUT

Crane Occupied in Israel

On April 26, six activists from Green Course climbed onto a construction crane at the Sea & Sun project in Tel Aviv. The protestors remained on top of the crane (over 200 feet high) for four days.

Student support demonstrations were held daily. Food and water was smuggled under the police's noses. One of the crane sitters ordered pizza, but the police stopped him from accepting it. A member of parliament, Dedy Zuker, climbed up, brought the sitters food and promised to talk to the mayor of Tel Aviv. Only after several members of the city council visited the site, and parliament member Yosi Sarid promised to promote legislation to prevent building close to the beach, did the protestors agree to come down.

The coastline in Israel is slowly being covered with concrete monsters that get permits as hotels to "promote tourism" but are actually sold as apartments for the rich.

As a result of the action, the mayor of Tel Aviv, Rony Milo (who has investments in the project), established a committee to re-evaluate coastal construction. Green Course has received a great deal of support from the local and national press, professors, and politicians and has managed to dramatically raise awareness of the development.

After the occupation and the large media coverage, Milo decided to freeze the construction plans on the coast of Tel Aviv.

The bigger fight, however, will be against the Trans-Israel Highway. Construction is supposed to begin in September. Any graffiti or other actions at places around the globe against Hughes, Canadian Highways Inc. or the French bank, Socete Generale, are welcome.

For more information, contact the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel at 4 Hashfela St., Tel Aviv; 03-6388653; fax 03-5374302; spni@actcom.co.il

Plowshares Activists Beat B-52 Bomber

On May 17, five peace activists enacted the biblical prophecy of Isaiah to beat swords into plowshares at a Pentagon air show outside Washington, DC. The five, calling themselves the Gods of Metal Plowshares, poured blood on a B-52 bomber on public display and then beat on it with hammers.

The five activists joined thousands of visitors at an air show organized by the Pentagon. They brought banners, bottles of their own blood, hammers and leaflets. As hundreds of onlookers observed, they proceeded to throw blood on and hammer the inside of the bomb bay doors of a B-52 bomber. As one activist, Sister Ardeth, was stopped by security officials, others hammered on the outside of the bomber, unfurled a banner, prayed and then explained to those assembled the meaning of their action. They poured their blood as a sign of their willingness to lay down their lives rather than take the lives of others.

Eventually, military and civilian police placed the five peaceful activists face down on the tarmac, handcuffed them and took them into custody.

For more information, contact Lynn Fredriksson, East Timor Action Network, 110 Maryland Avenue NE #30, Washington, DC 20002; (202) 544-6911, fax 546-5103; etandc@igc.org; http://www.etan.org.

THE REVOLUTION IS HERE!

MOVE is a self-determined, ecocentric liberation movement that emerged in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the early 1970s. After MOVE gained notoriety and respect for their community activism, the government orchestrated one of its most savage counterintelligence campaigns against this radical American political movement. In 1978, nine members were framed for murder and sentenced to prison for up to 100 years. Then, in 1985, five babies and six adults of the MOVE family were brutally slain in their home by police, FBI and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents.

With the sudden death of imprisoned MOVE activist, Merle Africa, this March, the struggle to free the other eight MOVE members is of renewed urgency. Ramona Africa, who survived the 1985 siege and seven years in prison, continues to organize tirelessly for Earth and animal liberation. Earth First! activists Paloma and Chris shared this discussion with Ramona and Mario Hardy during this spring's southern speaking tour organized by Katuah Earth First! and the Ashville International Workers of the World. Send your support and questions to MOVE at POB 19709, Philadelphia, PA 19143.

Paloma: What does MOVE stand for?

Ramona: MOVE is not an acronym, it means just what it says—to move, to generate, to move in harmony with life, to move against and to remove anything that is going against life. It means to move against the abuse of life, all life—animal life, human, marine, plant life—all life. It means to be active, to be involved, to be moving... and to uncompromisingly oppose anything that exploits, oppresses, enslaves, maims, kills or poisons life.

Paloma: You say uncompromising. What types of things has MOVE done to facilitate change?

Ramona: MOVE was founded in 1971 or '72. MOVE emerged in peaceful demonstrations at the Philadelphia Center at the Ringling Brother's Barnum and Bailey circus opposing the exploitation and abuse of animal life. We went to conferences and symposiums on the environment and the energy crisis, and we confronted the people that were having these conferences. They were people like DuPont Laboratories who had the audacity to talk about being environmentally friendly... Meanwhile, they were poisoning the environment. They were making millions of dollars while putting poisons in the water, and they tried to convince people to buy a water purifier created by their laboratories. That was their solution to the poison they were putting in our water. MOVE wouldn't have it. We confronted them about that... We set an example with the way we lived in not poisoning the environment and living in harmony with the Earth. MOVE, back in '71 or '72, started taking our potato and fruit peelings and seeds and put them back into the dirt, turning it over. Feeding life so that life could feed us. People looked at us like we were nasty, filthy, dirty, throwing garbage in the backyard. Today, there's a cute word for it called composting. Now it's acceptable.

Mario: Some of the other things that MOVE continued to do were things that were very community based like checking on the care of the elderly people within the community. MOVE put out fresh bowls of fruit and vegetables, encouraging the children to eat strong food... MOVE built wood-burning stoves for people in the community who were poor and had their gas shut off. We bought bulk food and gave food away to people who had lots of children... MOVE did community clean-ups and things like that. MOVE had and has a very strong community basis.

Ramona: We would water and feed animals that needed it and even take dogs for walks to the park that didn't normally get let out. We would talk to people and encourage them to take care of their animals. When people had things in their home that were dangerous in terms of putting fumes or poison in the air, we would talk to them about it. We would talk to people about what industries were doing to the water, air, etc., just gradually mentioning things to people, using examples from current news issues, using the opportunities to put out information to people. We would explain that we were a revolutionary organization... We must deal with the *entire* issue. When we talk to people about confronting cops, about police brutality, that's a serious issue and must

be dealt with, but so is the attack on our health.

Now you have black people, dark-skinned people who if they sit out in the sun, their lips start getting sun burnt. That did not happen 25 to 30 years ago. We start talking to people about why that's happening. About the hole in the ozone layer of our atmosphere...

Now people can't even drink the water anymore. They have to buy water. If someone said 25 years ago you'd have to buy water, you'd have said they were crazy...

Paloma: You were doing a lot of actions and getting things in the media, but you were also very community based.

Mario: That's something the media and the government will never put out about MOVE. They want to make it seem like the people were against MOVE. In fact, MOVE had a tremendous amount of respect and community support.

Paloma: You spoke of the need to unify EF! and MOVE. Who would you say are our common enemies?

Ramona: There are a handful of super-rich industrialists that



Ramona Africa and Judi Bari in '96

"Unity is the root of this revolution. We can't afford to let our enemy manufacture dividers between us... We can't afford not to work together."

— Ramona Africa

run the world, that make the decisions that affect the entire world... Political puppets are put between us and so must bear some of the flack... Those industrialists disagree on different matters with each other, but when it comes to dealing with the people, with oppressing us, making that dollar and doing what is necessary to keep this system going, they put all of their differences aside and unify against us. We have to learn that we don't have to agree on everything. Not one or any or all of the differences between us amounts to anything compared to the one serious thing that we have in common. That's our common oppressor. We need to come together, work together to rid ourselves of our common enemy. In doing that, we'll find we have a lot more in common. There is a fight on so many levels—the animal liberation level, environmental and social justice levels. People are not being asked to abandon the particular front that they are dealing with. There's a full picture here, and the more we support each other, the stronger it makes all of our movements. Unity is the root of this revolution. We can't afford to let our enemy manufacture dividers between us... We can't afford not to work together.

Chris: What's your response to groups that say that MOVE is not an environmental group?

Ramona: They obviously don't know our history... MOVE only got into the legal system and ended up going to jail and being involved in confrontations because of our strong examples in our defense of the environment. We didn't start out confronting cops, judges and prison guards. Our beginning was in defense of life. That's what we were doing and still are doing. Only we've had to spread out some and deal with the legal system because we were put into the legal system.

Chris: You'd agree with the statement, "No compromise in defense of mother Earth?"

Ramona: Absolutely. I've talked at length with Judi Bari, and we completely agreed that the Earth is to be defended uncompromisingly.

Paloma: MOVE members have been shot at, bombed and burned alive. Pregnant women have had their babies beaten out of them by cops and killed in front of them. MOVE members are still in prison for upholding their beliefs.

Ramona: We haven't backed up one bit. How can we give into an enemy that will do these things to us? To compromise to this system will not protect us. When you continue to take a strong, uncompromising stance against the system, you may not be free from the attacks and brutality of the system, but you know that you're willing to defend what is right... MOVE members have been in jail for years, and they had the opportunity to get out of jail if they would abandon the fight, abandon MOVE, the revolution, but MOVE members wouldn't do it. I could have been out of jail in 16 months, but I spent every day of seven years because I wouldn't give up. I wouldn't abandon the revolution. We have people that have been in jail 12, 13, 16 years.

Chris: What advice would you give EF!ers in jail?

Ramona: To remain strong. Mainly to remain active. That's what will keep you sane, keep you going. Exercise. If you run, run daily if you can. Do any kind of physical exercises because jail is an oppressive, frustrating place to be. It can get to you if you let it, but frustration and anxiety is nothing but pent up energy that has to be released. Now, you can release it by going off and fighting a guard or something which isn't going to get you anywhere, or it'll be released through the energy-robbing disease of depression. Releasing that energy through activity, you also strengthen your body and relieve your mind.

Outside support is very important. Any Earth First! member or member of some other organization deserves and needs support from their members on the outside. People can be supportive through letters, staying in contact, visiting if possible, keeping information about them on the streets. Let people know why they are in prison.

While in prison, people can organize, teach, let other people know what's going on, why they should be involved, how it affects them. I'm not saying it can't get overwhelming sometimes, but that's when you have to rely on your beliefs to carry you through.

Chris: What role do you see direct action playing in the revolution?

Ramona: It's not necessary for the masses of people to be involved in direct action, but it is necessary for the masses to support those that are involved in direct action in upfront movements... When you are talking about life, protecting that which is alive, then it is not only acceptable and righteous, but it is our responsibility.

Mario: John Africa teach MOVE the work of revolution is just that, it's work, confrontation... It's not about debates, term papers, publicity stunts and press releases. It's about doing the work of revolution.

Ramona: John Africa teaches, "Application, don't need no conversation."

Paloma: Revolution—is it possible?

Ramona: It's here! The revolution is here. Anybody that don't feel the need to be involved in it... this system's got something to make believers out of you. The revolution is here!

WRITE THE MOVE NINE:

Debbie Sims Africa #006307, Janet Holloway Africa #006308 and Janine Phillips Africa #006309 at SCI Cambridge Springs, 451 Fullerton Ave., Cambridge Springs, PA 16403-1238. •Michael Davis Africa #AM4973 and Charles Sims Africa #AM 4975 at SCI Graterford, POB 244, Graterford, PA 19426-0244. •Edward Goodman Africa #AM4974, SCI Camp Hill, POB 200, Camp Hill, PA 17001-0200. •Williams Phillips Africa #AM4984 and Delbert Orr Africa at SCI Dallas, Drawer K, Dallas, PA 18612.

FIGHT THE POWER

PACIFICORPS TARGETS BLACK MESA

BY CASPER AND GUACAMOLE

In the high-elevation desert of the Four Corners region, the traditional Dineh live their humble lives. The sheep graze the rolling red hills, the wool is sheared and spun, and the corn grows out of the baked Earth. In the mud-caked, pinion pine hogans and throughout the sagebrush canyons, the elders pass down the knowledge to the next generations, keeping their wisdom alive. But for centuries, this simple and peaceful band of traditionalists has been struggling. Most recently, since the 1970s, they have been fighting to retain their identity while being subjected to a federal relocation program to facilitate the mining operations of the world's largest coal producer, Peabody Coal Company.

As the largest coal stripmine in the world, the Kayenta mine, located on Black Mesa in northeastern Arizona, has forced the relocation of more than 10,000 traditional Dineh and 100 Hopi from their homes. Many have died at the relocation area—the site of the largest radioactive waste spill in US history. The UN Working Group on Indigenous Peoples classifies the situation on Black Mesa as the third worst case of institutionalized cultural genocide in the Western hemisphere. Nonetheless, Peabody continues to produce more than 12 million tons of coal each year from the Black Mesa/Kayenta mining site. Last year the company produced 165 million tons of coal worldwide and fueled more than nine percent of all electricity in the United States.

Since the mine's opening in the early 1970s, Peabody Western Coal Company, headquartered in Flagstaff, Arizona, has stripmined more than 100 gravesites, nearly emptied the Navajo aquifer, poisoned and killed hundreds of head of livestock. Las Vegas, Los Angeles and Phoenix continue to gobble up the cheap energy coming from Peabody.

The Northwest Connection

Today, the situation with Peabody is changing—unfortunately not in a positive way for the traditional Dineh. The company may soon have some new customers purchasing its bloody coal. Until recently, Peabody Coal was a subsidiary of The Energy Group (TEG). TEG is a British-owned conglomerate with holdings in coal and natural gas reserves throughout the world. Peabody Coal is its pride and joy and by far its biggest money maker.

In the spring of 1997, as the families of Black Mesa were struggling with relocation, harassment and the new, highly restrictive Accommodations Agreement (a 75-year non-renewable lease), TEG went on the open-market. For the past two years, Fred Buckman, CEO and board chair for Pacificorps, headquartered in Portland, Oregon, has been in England working on plans with the heads of TEG to have Pacificorps inherit the massive conglomerate.

All spring Pacificorps has been in a multi-billion dollar bidding war with Texas Utilities for control of TEG. Texas Utilities won in early May, with a bid of more than \$12 billion. Pacificorps had put hundreds of workers into early retirement, closed a major mining operation in Wyoming and stretched its assets to the limit to come up with the liquid cash to buy TEG; Texas Utilities had more. The week Pacificorps lost the bid, its stocks dropped \$20 million. For the time being, Pacificorps' consumers have been spared a direct connection to the human rights violations on Black Mesa.

Later, Texas Utilities sold the Peabody portion of TEG to Lehman Merchant Banking, an overseas partner of Pacificorps, for \$2.3 billion. The coal from Black Mesa may soon spin the Northwest's voltage meters.

The Stockholders Meeting

Sitting in Pacificorps' annual stockholders convention on May 13 made

officials refused to answer questions about future investments in Peabody, citing Security and Exchange Commission rules.

Reservation Displacement

Northeastern Arizona is facing an environmental nightmare. Back on the reservation, the wells have dried up, the corn is covered with black soot, the rains don't come often and there's almost no topsoil in areas south of the Hopi Mesas. A water report contracted by the Hopi Tribe in 1997 reports that there may be no water left in the aquifer in as little as five to ten years. According to the "experts," the options are to: stop the Black Mesa water pipeline, build another pipeline from Lake Powell to supply water to the residents of the Navajo and Hopi reservations, or relocate the entire populations of both reservations. Ward Churchill states in his book *Genocide in Arizona*, that the Four Corners area has already been recognized as a "Na-



Resistance is a way of life for the Dineh fighting coal mining on their ancestral homelands.

us feel like instant millionaires. About 400 shiny and polished heads graciously watched a company executive open the meeting, reporting on Pacificorps' annual earnings, setbacks and goals for the future. Here were the people who own the future of American energy policy.

A coalition of groups had bought single shares in the company in order to speak against Pacificorps' investments in TEG and call for no further attempts to purchase Peabody Coal. Upon hearing what their company had been investing in, some shareholders sighed, others sneered. Overall there was shocked silence.

Outside, citizens rallied to protest Pacificorps' investments in massive coal plants like the one in Centralia, Washington, the emissions of which cause a documented 110 deaths a year. Members of Amnesty International spoke against Pacificorps' energy investments in Turkey, a country guilty of ethnic cleansing of Kurdish separatists. The transnational has also been a huge player in the financing of the monstrous Maheshwar dam project in India (see article on page 4). Pacificorps

ditional Sacrifice Area" by the Department of Energy and the Department of Interior. In other words, the resources in the ground are far more important to the government than the people who have been living there since before the United States was founded.

If Pacificorps continues its stockholder revenue-boosting strategies through the merger with Peabody Coal, energy users in the Pacific Northwest may soon be accomplices to the genocide of the people of Black Mesa with each utility payment. And as energy deregulation continues to hum in the media, Pacificorps has vowed to offer the cheapest possible energy to its consumers. This dirty energy strategy places the burden of conscience on its consumers. Soon, people in the Pacific Northwest may have a turn fighting the power coming to their mailboxes.

For more information contact the NoEndRun Committee, a TEG watchdog group at ogec@imagina.com or the Indigenous Support Coalition of Oregon at POB 11715, Eugene, Oregon, 97440; isco@efn.org.

BARE BONES

Wrench the Movie, Gang

According to *The Salt Lake Standard Examiner* and *Men's Journal*, Ed Abbey's cult classic *The Monkey Wrench Gang* is going to Hollywood. Dennis Hopper announced that he will direct the film. The plan is to begin shooting in August in Utah. Woody Harrelson will star as George Washington Hayduke, and Bob Dylan will contribute to the soundtrack. Look for it to hit the theaters in 1999.

Boxer Blocks QLG Bill

In early May, US Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) blocked the Quincy Library Group bill from going to a full vote in the Senate. Boxer originally co-sponsored the bill but removed her name six months ago. The bill seemed ready to be approved in the Senate last July after it was passed in the House 429-1. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), who is the lead sponsor of the bill, said she was disappointed by Boxer's formal block on legislation that they had both called a model for resolving local conflicts over natural resource management. Environmentalists across the country have opposed the bill, saying it doesn't protect old-growth forests and sensitive watersheds in the Sierra Nevada Ecosystem (see Yule 1997 *EF!*).

Enviro Journalistas Killed

A new survey shows that at least 26 journalists were murdered during 1997 because of their profession. Two of the deceased were investigating environmental stories.

Muhammad Sayuti Bochari, a reporter with the weekly *Post Makassar*, in Sulawesi, Indonesia was killed June 11, 1997. According to local media, Sayuti had uncovered a timber theft operation involving the Kasintuwu village chief while investigating deforestation in the Kaya Regency.

He died of head and neck injuries after he was found unconscious June 9 on a village street in Luwu. Local police said Sayuti died in a traffic accident. Family members and friends say his bruises and injuries showed he had been beaten.

On July 25, 1997, the body of Naimullah, 42, an investigative journalist with *Sinar Pagi*, was found in the back of his car. According to reports in *Media Indonesia* and *Akcaya*, Naimullah had recently reported on timber theft and had been conducting an investigation of illegal logging in Kalimantan (see article on page 13).

Tropical Timber Victory

After a four month campaign by Action Resource Center, Rainforest Relief and Los Angeles Rainforest Action Project, the City of Long Beach, California, has agreed to all of their demands about the use of tropical woods. In exchange, they are ending a publicity campaign against the city for its use of rainforest wood in the Queensway Bay project adjacent to the new Aquarium of the Pacific. City council members voted unanimously to pass a policy requiring all future tropical wood purchases to be Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified sustainable and to adopt an agreement to prevent this from happening again. The city will also study and draft a policy barring it from purchasing all old-growth wood products. The city had purchased 87,000 linear feet of tropical ipe wood from the Brazilian Amazon.

CLARK CREEK CRAP SHOOT

AND TREE-TOP ROULETTE

BY AYELET HINES

Poking at the ashes of the fire ring, a shaggy haired young man who calls himself "Yew" tells me about a man who visited the camp a week before. "He hiked out here to learn about the tree village, asking me, 'Are these climbers trained? How are the platforms made? Are they safe?' I told him it didn't matter, that we were monkeys. Besides, I'm ready to die for this place." Cascadians are a risky lot; perhaps their treetop roulette dissuades Forest Service climbers from removing them. During a recent visit by Forest Service employees, "Free," secured only by his safety line, startled the workers by jumping six feet off a rope walkway 200 feet high in a tree, chanting and screaming. The camp remains undisturbed.

This fire ring and surrounding camp sit on a logging deck in the nine-acre Clark timber sale near Lowell, Oregon, some of the last unprotected low-elevation old growth in the central Oregon Cascades. I've come out here with Ophelia, another native Southerner and my closest friend from Texas who has listened to my endless tragic tales about the impending ecologic Armageddon. Chicken Little fussing about how the sky is falling typically causes Ophelia's eyes to glaze over, but she agreed to trudge through the mud to witness the creation of a tree village.

This forest is in its climax stage, with many downed logs and snags. Hemlock and vine maple fill the lower canopy, with old man's beard, a soft green usnea, draped throughout. The typical cloud cover diffuses the light in which the understory of salal, Oregon grape and sword ferns thrives. Red cedar and Douglas fir, the largest as old as 600 years, tower overhead.

The Clark encampment began on April 20 when activists hoisted a platform 200-feet off the ground into a gigantic Douglas fir. That day Free climbed into the platform, beginning a 40-day occupation. Logging of the sale can begin any day now, and a quarter-mile road already penetrates the heart of this 96-acre island of ancient forest. Presently, nothing impedes the logging of the seven other units, should the Zip-O Lumber Company decide ignore the people in the trees.

One woman sits 100-feet off the ground in a cargo net, and another platform is under construction. "Spider Island" hovers among the tallest branches of a fir, suspended by an entanglement of traverse ropes. Another forest-dweller, Akasha, has just completed a platform in a neighboring tree; a '70s-style exercise bicycle sits in the treetop townhouse. The sitters pedal 30-miles a day on the bike.

Ophelia walks around a stack of felled trees, each at least 400-years older than she. All the trees in sight wear a badge of either orange or blue, the latter destined for the mill. I show her how many of the trees felled for the road bear orange paint that had obviously been painted over with blue. Zip-O employees visited the site to conceal the orange "leave" markings with blue ones indicating "cut." A Forest Service investigation into timber theft is underway. The stack of felled ancient trees lies against a fir once occupied



Elder trees taken down, some illegally, at the Fall Creek encampment

by Hazel. When the trees came down, loggers repeatedly rammed them against the inhabited tree, jostling the cargo net. Hazel spent five days in the cargo net, suspended 150-feet off the ground between three 500-year-old firs. "The sound of the machinery split my spine as it ripped the stumps out of the ground," she told me.

A timber sale appeal failed to preserve this place, formerly protected by its designation as critical habitat for fish and wildlife. The Clinton Administration reopened the area to logging under Option 9, the compromise that gave half the Northwest's remaining ancient forest to the timber industry and the other half to the US Forest Service (presumably for logging at a future date). This place provides sanctuary for deer, ospreys, hummingbirds, nuthatches, hawks, Northern spotted owls, salamanders and skunks, to name a few. Hiking to the camp, four snakes crossed our path. Brazen gray squirrels darted around our feet, feasting on the millet spilled on the ground.

Having grown up on the Gulf coast, Ophelia tells me, "When I'm at the beach, I never look up, only out. I think about oil spills and red tide; deforestation is so distant to me. Understanding it is a tactile experience, like putting my hand on a tree, my eyes following the length up the trunk to such a towering presence."

Fall Creek lies in the back yard of this year's Round River Rendezvous. If you've never entered an ancient forest, seeing this area will ignite your passions and break your heart. Come on out and learn how to climb. Live free of rent and bills a hundred-feet off the ground while defending a majestic watershed and catching up on your reading. See for yourself that the commitment of these activists can only be surpassed by the grandeur of this land.

For more information contact Cascadia Forest Defenders, POB 11122, Eugene, OR 97440; (541) 343-7305.

KNAUF FIBERGLASS IF MEDFORD WON'T TAKE IT, SHASTA'S SCREWED

Anyone who has been to Medford, Oregon, knows it's not a real environmental town. Probably every region has a city that is a wasteland of industrial development. In Oregon, Medford is that place. So when Shasta, California, agreed to house the fiberglass plant that Medford had rejected as too damaging, the citizens of Shasta knew things were bad.

They were right. The Knauf Fiberglass plant would emit over 3,000 pounds of toxic and hazardous chemicals per day like phenol, formaldehyde and ammonia from a 190-foot smokestack. The gases would create a 30-mile-long blanket of smoke. The waste stream from the proposed plant would be about ten tons a day, and six to eight tons of this would be fiberglass scraps. The toxic, chemically coated waste would be dumped in one of two landfills. One of the dumps is known to be out of compliance with air quality regulations.

The proposed building site for the fiberglass insulation plant is in the north end of the Sacramento Valley, nestled among some of the most spectacular scenery in the country: Mount Shasta, Shasta Lake, Mount Lassen peak and park, Whiskeytown Lake and many other streams, mountains and forests.

Neither Knauf nor the city government of Shasta Lake consider the area worthy of preservation. Knauf is a very profitable corporation owned by three German brothers. It has four operating fiberglass plants in the US, with the newest and most modern one in Lanett, Alabama. That plant runs three lines of production, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The Environmental Impact Report for the Shasta plant only evaluates the impacts of one production line, though Knauf fully intends to build a second and possibly a third.

Such is typical of the not-so-stringent planning process that the city of Shasta has followed. The Shasta County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) freely admits that there were 17 months of secret negotiations among Knauf, EDC and Shasta Lake officials. By the time news of the impending plant was made public, it was virtually a done deal. And what a deal! The city offered Knauf cheap electricity, cheap water and a 30 percent rebate on property taxes for 30 years. In return, Knauf recently donated \$800,000 to the city in a clear *quid pro quo* deal. In January the Shasta County Air Pollution Control Board voted unanimously to lower the county's air quality standards to allow Knauf to operate. One city councilor responded to the concern of citizens by saying, "If they don't like it here, they can move."

The factory will be built within three miles of eight different elementary and secondary schools. In order to mitigate the increased air pollution from the factory, Knauf will pave four miles of dirt road. Surely this project takes the cake for its outrageously corrupted planning process. Most absurdly, the local Chamber of Commerce claims that the piddly 145 jobs created by the plant justify its impact on this river valley surrounded by mountain ranges on three sides.

Fortunately, this egregious scheme has not gone unchallenged. The grassroots group Citizens for Responsible Growth used the mandatory hearings called for in the California Environmental Quality Act to force two revised drafts of the Environmental Impacts Report. But even the newest draft is inadequate. Hundreds of letters have been written and pickets have been organized.

Citizens for Responsible Growth would love to hear from others who have waged similar battles. Suggestions and donations can be sent to 13613 Jaybird Way, Redding, CA 96003. For more information, call (530) 275-0325 or 243-5212; <http://www.shastalake.com>.

COVE/MALLARD CONVICTIONS

BY JANEETA OMIGOSH AND BOGBEAN

In a May 18 sentencing hearing, four Cove/Mallard activists were each sentenced to 60 days in jail and \$500 in fines. The activists were found guilty in March of maintaining a structure in a road and impeding traffic at the High Jack blockade last summer.

Sentencing had been postponed until May to allow government prosecutor Barry McHugh to squeeze out approximately \$6,000 in restitution fees. The fees are to pay for rental costs for the heavy equipment that was used, in part, to extract the activists from their bipods, slash pile and dragon's roost. Idaho Federal District Judge Edward "Fast Eddy" Lodge was visibly angry when the activists flat-out refused to follow probation, get corporate jobs or pay fines, so he handed down one of the heaviest prison sentences the Cove/Mallard campaign has seen for direct action. He refused to allow the activists to speak to their motivations in their clemency statements. Echo managed to ask Fast Eddy, "What are you afraid to listen to?" Crusty, donning his "there is no justice in Idaho" T-shirt, accused the court of finding him "guilty by appearance."

The resistance continues. Cove/Mallard basecamp will be hot with activity this summer, serving as headquarters for tracking surveys and water quality monitoring, as well as a satellite camp for a direct action campaign against nearby roadless area timber sales. We need YOU!

To write the jailbirds, see the prisoner support contacts on page 35, or contact the Contact Cove/Mallard Coalition at POB 8968, Moscow, ID 83843; (208) 882-9755; cove@moscow.com.

TEST SITE OCCUPIED

DEMONSTRATORS LEFT IN PEACE FOR 24 HOURS

BY JENNIFER VIREECK, HEALING GLOBAL WOUNDS

"The grassroots indigenous people have fought on the front lines against great odds, out of the limelight, yet they have often won by relying on their traditional teachings," says Tom Goldtooth, executive director of the Indigenous Environmental Network. "By putting forth grassroots cultural resistance as a model for change, we are challenging both native rights and environmental movements to be true to their roots." Goldtooth said this as he, representatives of the Western Shoshone Nation and over 400 supporters from all over the world spent their Easter weekend at the entrance to the Nevada Test Site. With a strong unified voice, all demanded a halt to the destruction of traditional Shoshone lands and an end to violations of Shoshone religious freedoms. The best way to begin the new millennium, they said, is to honor the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and the Ruby Valley Treaty with the Shoshone Nation by shutting down the test site.

On April 13, over 150 people entered the test site before dawn and participated in the first traditional Shoshone Sunrise Ceremony held there since the land was seized by the federal government in 1948. Led by Corbin Harney, a Western Shoshone spiritual leader, the occupation continued for 24 hours with no response from the Department of Energy. Ten people who headed further into the test site were arrested later that day for trespassing. As the occupation intensified throughout the weekend, 91 people were arrested at the Circle of Rebirth Easter ceremony at the test site entrance after crossing the property lines.

"We were put here by the Creator as a native people to take care of this land and all the life on it," stated Harney. "Shoshone people have taken care of this land for thousands of years. The government has stolen this land from us, and now it is very contaminated. They have kept us from doing what we can to take care of it and heal it. For 50 years they have kept us out with fences and guards."

Healing Global Wounds, the anti-nuclear alliance hosting the gathering, pointed out the overwhelming health and environmental effects after 47 years of nuclear weapons testing on traditional Shoshone lands. In addition to renewed "subcritical" weapons testing, these problems are now compounded by shipments of low-level radioactive waste pouring into the test site from contaminated weapons facilities all over the US, at the rate of four truckloads a day. Recent reports show that four out of five trucks from Fernald, Ohio, alone have been leaking on interstate freeways. Congress continues to move forward with mandating Mobile Chernobyl, the shipping of US spent reactor fuel to Yucca Mountain, located within the test site. Current studies have shown the location is 25 percent as active as the San Andreas fault in California [see Mobile Chernobyl article on page 14].

The test originally scheduled for April has been postponed until later this summer due to safety and contamination issues at Lawrence Livermore Laboratories where the plutonium is being produced. Those gathered vowed to return in October for the fall Healing Global Wounds Gathering (October 10-13) as well as for Mother's Day 1999 to further the resistance. Shundahai Network in Las Vegas will continue to coordinate a resistance to subcritical nuclear weapons tests. To participate, contact Shundahai Network at 5007 Elmhurst Ln., Las Vegas, NV 89108-1304; (702) 647-3095; fax 647-9385; reinard@shundahai.org.



Crossing the lines into the test site

Photo courtesy of Shundahai Network

PRECEDENT SETTING VICTORY

IN THE UMPQUA

BY FRANCIS ETHERINGTON

A federal district court ruled on April 29 that the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is not doing enough to protect endangered fish and ordered government agencies to stop dozens of timber sales until they have ensured salmon and trout will not go extinct. The ruling is expected to result in increased protection for salmon and trout on public lands throughout the West, starting in Oregon's Umpqua basin. The ruling by Judge Barbara J. Rothstein arose from a case brought by fishing and conservation groups, including Umpqua Watersheds, seeking greater protection for the endangered Umpqua River cutthroat trout.

The Umpqua National Forest and Roseburg Bureau of Land Management (BLM) offered dozens of timber sales last year in areas with endangered trout or salmon. Judge Rothstein's ruling makes it clear that the sales must meet the standards set by the Endangered Species Act for protecting fish. Wherever federal agencies are planning timber sales that could affect salmon or trout, this decision will apply.

Imperiled fish, and commercial fishers, cannot withstand more of the same clearcutting and road-building that has degraded aquatic habitat and caused the current fish crisis. The judge found that the federal government failed to prove the Umpqua cutthroat trout can survive the extensive logging, clearcutting and road-building authorized under the Northwest Forest Plan.

While the ruling was a very welcome reprieve for many beautiful places, it does not apply to sales above natural barriers to endangered salmon. Sales within

endangered fish habitat that were sold under the Salvage Rider, which exempted the agencies from complying with all environmental laws, are not affected by the ruling. About a dozen of the ancient forest clearcuts that the judge ruled to be illegal are shielded by the Salvage Rider. The court did stop 24 timber sales.

Agencies often propose large clearcuts in old-growth forests, thereby opening the forest canopy and causing rain to run off the steep slopes faster, stressing the creeks below and sometimes resulting in landslides. Be-

cause the Northwest Forest Plan prohibits such watershed degradation, the agencies "compensate" for the new degradation by repairing some old logging roads. However, the judge said that, "The road mitigation achieved was slight."

The ultimate fate of the halted sales remains unclear. For instance, in spite of the judge's clear agreement with the "evidence of adverse effects," Roseburg BLM will not admit that clearcutting the public's ancient forests degrades watersheds. BLM's response is: "The ruling by Judge Rothstein stated that the affected sales were 'procedurally' out of compliance with ACS [Aquatic Conservation Strategy]... that NMFS had assumed agency compliance... not that the agencies were in non-compliance." In other words, a little shift in paper work is all they feel is needed to correct the problem.

NO LIBERTY IN BELL CREEK

SITTERS TAKE TO THE TREES

Through the northern part of the Headwaters forest flows Bell "Liberty" Creek, a residual riparian zone currently being helicopter logged by Pacific Lumber Co. The timber harvest plan will cut an area 300-feet wide, stretching for two-and-a-half miles directly along the creek.

Earth First! activists have occupied the area for the last seven months, digging and burying dragons, cutting and stashing tripods and constructing tree villages. Last fall over 10 platforms were fully bridged together, including the 15-person love pod.

On April 20, the Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC) requested a temporary restraining order to stop logging. Humboldt county Judge Dale Reinholtsen, a former Pacific Lumber employee, denied the request on April 28. EF! activists began road actions with equipment lockdowns.

While exploring the northern section of the area, photographer Doug Thron found a nearly intact grove with two massive redwoods in its center marked to be cut. One was reported to be 17-feet in

diameter and the other 12. These trees had been left standing on the steep slope because Pacific Lumber lacked the technology to remove them in years past.

A five-person crew went in the night before the cutting to find and protect the two massive trees. Climbing and setting platforms in the trees took all day. Bulldozers could be heard on the road 30 feet from one of the giants. After securing a line in each tree, the climbing crew slept soundly on the ground that night.

Chainsaws were their wake up call. Loggers had stealthily cut the rope on the largest tree before anyone could climb it. Fortunately, the rope on the other tree was safely out of the loggers' reach. They brought in the largest chainsaws manufactured (with 70-inch bars) and began to discuss how to fall the enormous redwood. In a spur-of-the-moment action, three women free-climbed into three smaller trees to keep the loggers from cutting the giant. Baffled, Columbia Helicopter's loggers spent the day scratching their heads and explaining that

they were brought in from Idaho and Oregon solely for these two trees.

When the loggers left, the trees were set with web platforms and a walkway. Attempts have been made to remove the tree sitters, including one in which Pacific Lumber's notorious activist-evilcor "Climber Dan" climbed to the 160-foot web. Once at the web, he couldn't figure out a method to remove the precariously perched activist. The loggers on the ground began to shout encouragement to Dan. He repeated that there was no way to safely remove the unharnessed occupant. The loggers became agitated and shouted commands to Dan, "Remove her tarp! Take her water bottle! For Pete's sake, Dan, take something! Take anything!" Climber Dan got angry and shouted furiously, "Idiots! Idiots! Idiots below me! Idiots above me! I'm surrounded by idiots! I'm coming down." He hasn't returned.

The tree sit remains in place. EPIC plans to sue to protect the creek. Road actions have been on-going and will continue until there is a resolution. To arrange your redwood eco-tourism travel packages contact Northcoast Earth First! at POB 28, Arcata, CA 95518; (707) 825-8911.

—NORTHCOAST EF!

SLOVAKIAN FORESTS DAMMED...

"Ecological Activists Stormed the Starina Dam"
 "The Biggest Drawn Joke in the World Shined on the Dike"
 "WOLF Demonstrated at the Starina Dam in Favor of Forests"
 (Newspaper headlines after the action)

BY MÁRIA HÚDAKOVÁ

On an overcast day in March, the WOLF Forest Protection Movement stormed the dike of the Starina dam in eastern Slovakia, protesting dam construction and forest management policies.

Activists separated into two teams as they approached the dike. A small team entered the area first to create a diversion. The larger team carried a massive 10 by 20-meter banner.

As the smaller group veered toward a building on the dike, four dam employees watched from behind a fence with unconcealed wonder. Demonstrators distributed leaflets to the employees through the bars of the gate. A macho, middle-aged guy—apparently the supervisor—appeared and shouted, "Clear out! It's none of your business to be here! It's prohibited to enter!" A nearby sign proved him right, stating, "Water Source. Area of Hygienic Protection of the First Degree. No Admittance Except on Business." But the real message of the supervisor was about intimidation, as he threatened to release a young German shepherd in a cage.

But all this was just the diversion. Most of the activists entered under a gate and then swarmed across an access road to the dike. The atmosphere ignited. "What are you climbing there? To hell with you!" yelled the macho guy. When his protests didn't help, he released the dog. However, the dog, kept in the cage for who knows how long, ran around like a ballet dancer let out of solitary confinement. His behavior was accompanied by applause and laughter from the protesters. Instead of biting, he licked the activists' hands. The macho guy couldn't stand it and called the police.

At that moment, the big banner (with a cartoon and caption drawn by the famous Slovak caricaturist Fedor Vico) was spread on the dike. The banner stated, "It's better to have water up to knees than dams up to necks." A guy standing in water up to his knees said in Rusinian dialect, "They preach of water but suck our blood." (Rusins are a minority who had to evacuate seven villages because they were flooded to make the dam.)

The activists pulled down the banner as the police arrived. A policeman stated that the nature conservationists, although they had trespassed, were at that moment doing nothing illegal and therefore no action could be taken against them.



Photo courtesy of WOLF

BY WOLF FOREST PROTECTION MOVEMENT

Along the Morava River lies a European border, not a state border but a natural border, a border between forests. To the west lie states where native forests have been lost and have been substituted with cultivated landscapes or artificial forests. These countries (from Great Britain in the north to France, Germany, Switzerland and down to Spain and Portugal in the south) exist only because they exploit areas several times larger than their own territory. Their water regimes are unstable, resulting in extensive dry seasons and fires (as in Spain, Yugoslavia and Greece) or floods (as in Germany and the Netherlands).

To the east of the Morava River are relatively large tracts of native forests, little altered by development. Most of this area is between 400 and 1,000 meters above sea level. In this region, the native forest is predominantly fir-beech. Large undisturbed areas of such forests are found in Slovakia, the Transcarpathian Ukraine and Romania. The stabil-



Photo by Mária Húdková

"It's better to have water up to your knees than dams up to your necks."

to talk to the angry employees. Said one, "I don't know what they want. They came here to protest but they want to have water running in their apartments! I would know how to deal with them. I would f--- them until they turn green!" (loosely translated from colloquial Slovak)

With this action, the WOLF Forest Protection Movement hoped to bring the general public and responsible authorities' attention to the long-standing devastation of Slovak forests that has resulted in enormous diminution of the landscape's ability to retain water. Runoff has intensified, and the landscape suffers alternately from catastrophic floods in rainy periods and drought in dry periods.

Instead of providing fundamental changes in forest management policy, the Ministry of Land Management tries to resolve this situation by building expensive dams. Unbelievably, 91 dams are planned in Slovakia. Each costs from US\$100 to \$160 million. Yet the state budget lacks the \$100 million needed to solve the housing problem, help the collapsing educational system or revive inadequate health services.

The action received significant media attention. Articles appeared in national and regional papers, and there was a report on the Slovak TV station, as well as on several radio stations. Wrote one journalist, "So far the biggest ecological radical action in eastern Slovakia took a peaceful course that was nicely and exotically impressive."

The dam authority said it would sue us for illegal entrance and mentioned our "violent" behavior. They also accused us of being blind as we are not able to see how dams are important.

The major expenses for the action were covered by a grant from the Earth First! Direct Action Fund. We are also thankful to GLOBAL 2000 from Austria for assisting with the production of the banner.

...HELP SAVE THEM—

BUY YOUR OWN TREE!

ity of these countries, especially their water regimes, is significantly higher than the rest of Europe thanks to these forests.

The ecological diversity and presence of large predators in these forests have no equal in the rest of Europe. For example, in Slovakia a 49,000-square-kilometer area contains more than 50,000 species of plants and animals. Wildlife surveys estimate that there are 800 bears, 300 wolves, 70 pairs of golden eagle, 900 lynx, more than 1,000 wild cats and 200 pairs of Ural owl in the area.

Unfortunately, political trends in the past several decades have been hostile to these forests. Fir trees, which grow quickly to large dimensions in European conditions (up to two meters in diameter in 300 years), have been so intensively logged that regeneration is impossible. Ultimately, nonnative spruce have encroached on the forests. The consequences have been evident; large-scale insect infestations and wind exposure, along with increased flooding, has wreaked havoc on the forests.

The WOLF Forest Protection Movement originated to save native forests and has used several means to do so. In 1993, a successful legislative campaign changed forest laws to ban clearcuts. In 1995, a World Bank project that would have completely destroyed our remaining native forests was defeated. In 1996, a blockade stopped logging in the Slanske Mountains.

Some forests cannot be saved by any of these methods. The natural value of the native fir-beech forests of eastern Slovakia is so great that we must

use all means of action to protect them. We decided to save a beech-fir stand in the middle of the Cergov Mountains by buying it. The stand is 21 hectares in size, between 800 and 1,000 meters above sea level, and neighbors a mountain ridge. The headwaters of a beautiful, clear stream originates from a cold spring deep in the forest.

The former owner of this land has agreed to sell it for 3.2-million Slovak crowns (approximately US\$93,000) with the condition that WOLF is named as the official owner. As this stand contains 3,000 to 4,000 trees, we decided to ask the public for help by purchasing one tree per person for 1,000 crowns (\$30). This will allow us to pay off the balance of the asking price in 1998—if we find enough people.

WOLF is now taking the necessary steps to have this stand declared the first private reserve in Central Europe with statutes to ensure that no wood will be removed from the stand, even after natural and logging-induced disasters.

Every tree buyer will be regularly informed about the condition of the planned reserve and the level of contributions reached. Help save the native eastern Slovak fir-beech rainforests of Europe. Buy your own tree. People outside Europe should make checks payable to Rainforest Information Centre and mail them to the Earth Trust Foundation, 20110 Rockport Way, Malibu, CA 90265.

Contact the WOLF Forest Protection Movement at c.d. 27, 082 13 Tulcik, Slovakia; phone/fax +421-91-941488; wolf@vadium.sk.

GENO & Palm Trees

Traditional Dayaks Resist Forced Resettlement

BY BRIAN BURCH AND
DAVID KAPPLER-BURCH

While global attention is riveted to the ousting of Suharto, there is a crime that continues in Indonesia and its neighboring countries, no matter who is in power. That crime is the destruction of a traditional way of life and the erosion of an ecosystem.

Spouting the usual rhetoric about improving lives and providing greater prosperity for all, logging and mining interests are displacing one of the oldest indigenous cultures in the world. Dayak people are being pushed aside to ensure the unchecked expansion of palm tree plantations, gold mines and large-scale deforestation in Kalimantan (formerly known as Borneo), their traditional home. The highlands of Kalimantan are believed to be covered by some of the oldest rainforests in the world.

The Dayaks' lives are complicated by the fact that their territory is ruled by three nations—Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam. The Dayak people themselves are composed of 37 different groups. Though not a pacifist society (they were historically described as headhunters), they were able to live in relative harmony with the world around them until fairly recently.

This culture was largely able to continue its traditional way of life through the 1960s. Dayak life is centered around communal long houses. Several long houses clustered together make up a village. They practice shifting agriculture, moving from place to place as soil becomes depleted, thus permitting the forest to renew itself. This traditional practice is disharmonious with logging interests.

In 1966, with the coming to power of Suharto's New Order government, the first large-scale logging began. Since then, there has been grave deforestation accompanied by massive destruc-

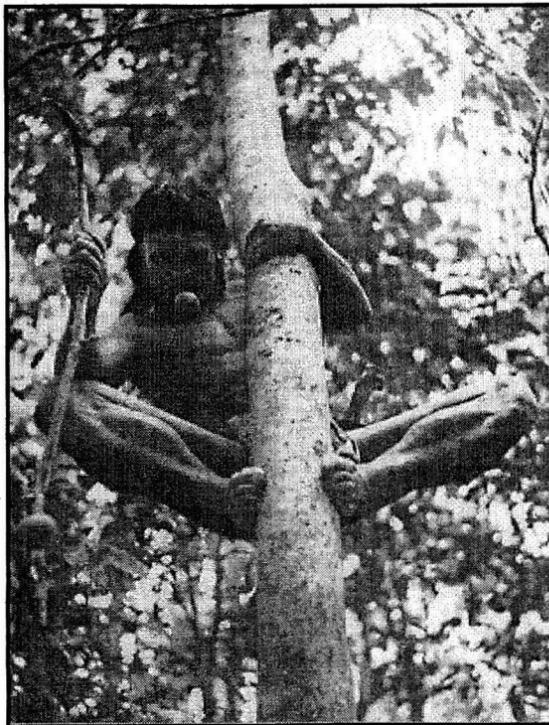
mountains of Kalimantan. Mining companies from Australia and Canada are engaged in wide-scale exploitation of the mineral resources of Borneo, much of it on land formerly occupied by the Dayaks. The best known of the mining interests is Rio Tinto, but others such as Properties Kalimantan Gold Corporation are also actively mining in Dayak territory. As well as displacing people, these mining efforts destroy vast tracts of land. Rio Tinto and the Indonesian-based Jarita Jayaraya have admitted that over three-quarters of 1,200 hectares of cleared land for one jointly owned mine cannot be rehabilitated due to heavy metal contamination.

A final threat is the forced relocation of settlers into now-deforested Dayak territory. This has created the first widespread settlements in areas previously unoccupied by permanent populations. The Dayaks, with their tradition of shifting agriculture, lived in close harmony to an ecosystem now facing urbanization, chemical-dependent agriculture, tree plantations of exotic species, logging and mining. The newcomers are from a different religious, cultural and linguistic backgrounds than the Dayaks, perpetuating the ongoing cultural genocide.

Resistance by the Dayaks and their supporters is often severely countered. It is also virtually ignored by the Western media. As Alex Ryan, from the Sydney, Australia-based Rainforest Action Group said in an interview, "The Dayaks have been blockading for over 15 years—it only came to public attention when [Swiss environmentalist Bruno] Manser got involved. The voices

armed police, when the Paras refused to be forcibly resettled. Similar reports abound.

The funds to build the infrastructure for mining and forestry come from such global institutions as the World Bank, which loaned \$50 million to fund roads



A Dayak man gathers fruit.

to transport logs from the last remaining primary rainforest in Sarawak.

While receiving these funds and moving into indigenous lands, the corporations involved try to sound like good corporate citizens by claiming to provide the education and opportunity for traditional peoples to become part of the dominant economic system. For example, Kalimantan Gold Corporation claims, "The company is committed to social development and protection of the environment. A number of initiatives have been established to provide training and education for villagers. These include a training program to teach local Dayaks drilling and exploration skills, a scholarship program for village children, a village development program and a nursery for the collection and research of the endangered Garuh tree. The company is also co-sponsoring a Participatory Rural Assessment program in the villages near the... work area. This program is designed to assist villagers in identifying the types of projects and activities that could be implemented for village development."

Effective solidarity actions are hampered by a lack of direct contacts with the Dayaks. However, Down to Earth and the Borneo Resources Institute are two good sources of information on the Dayaks and their struggles, as well as for ideas for action. Consult these groups before considering a solidarity action. Efforts like the 1991 occupation of a Malaysian tourist office to draw attention to the struggles of the Dayaks are effective when linked to the most current needs for action.

For more info, contact Down to Earth, 59 Athenlay Road, London SE15 3EN, England; dte@gn.apc.org. Borneo Resources Institute, GOP LB 23 - BN 354, 98009, Miri, Sarawak Malaysia; bri@tm.net.my.

Frontlines

Dam Banner Hanging

On Earth Day the Santiam Watershed Guardians dropped a 20-foot by 80-foot banner, which read "Clearcuts = Mudslides = Death" and had a skull and crossbones on it, off the Big Cliff Dam near Detroit, Oregon.

The action dramatized the start of logging at the Lo Breit timber sale. In anticipation of the Guardians' presence in the area, logging was terminated for the day at Lo Breit.

After six hours, the Guardians agreed to remove the banner and unlock the gates. There were no arrests, and the banner was retired for use another day. The Army Corps of Engineers employees who operate the dam were very supportive and said the Guardians could hang a banner off the dam whenever they wanted.

Forest Conference in Australia Disrupted

On April 30, a motley crew of about 40 people invaded the National Association of Forest Industry's (NAFI) Conference in Sydney, Australia. NAFI is the umbrella group for the biggest forest munchers in Australia. Formed in 1987, this brainchild of Weyerhaeuser-boss Dick Darnoc is a major headache for activists down here. The protesters took over the main stage for two hours, hurling both woodchips and insults at conference delegates who had paid over \$1,500 to attend. The action went off almost without a hitch and received widespread media coverage.

The action was a slap in the face of the conference organizers. Most of the delegates attending the conference are involved in the destruction of old-growth forests somewhere in Australia or Southeast Asia.

Five days prior to the Sydney action, 70 activists blockaded the entrance to the Daishowa mill in southeast New South Wales. About 70 log trucks were stopped at the blockade site for a whole day! Some of the protesters made the journey to Sydney to attend the NAFI conference, including one woman arrested at the Daishowa action who was flown to jail in Sydney, force fed tranquilizers and deloused twice by prison screws.

The day after the first NAFI action, 20 brave souls descended again into the conference to disrupt the clearcut guru himself, Patrick Moore (the ex-Greenpeace-turned-industry spokes). This time security guards blocked the entrance to the conference. Several protesters were crash-tackled to the floor, and one guard brandishing a knife cut the cord to another activist's megaphone, just before lunging at protesters, resulting in a wild melee. The media was pushed down the stairways.

A spokesperson for Earth First! said the guards' behaviour was over the top. "It only helped us by getting us riled up. Although they didn't let us into the conference we made damn sure that the racket we made disrupted Patrick Moore's speech. We later learnt that he had to escape the conference via a back door with his tail between his legs!" Protesters regrouped outside the hotel and held up two banners reading, "Judi Bari R.I.P. Stop Timber Industry and FBI Terrorism" and, "NAFI Lies—Old Growth Dies."

To help in the struggle, write Friends of the Earth, Fitzroy, POB 222, Fitzroy, 3065 Victoria, Australia; foefitzroy@peg.apc.org.

"The Dayaks have been blockading for over 15 years."

tion of the villages and culture of the Dayaks. Some reports indicate that half of the forests have been logged, with six million hectares so badly damaged they are no longer productive.

The Dayaks have been forced out of the forests by logging. In some cases there have been resettlement efforts, but often they have simply been driven away from their homes. Oil palm plantation owners work closely with government officials. They force Dayaks into surrendering their existing land claims in order to move the people into permanent settlements, offering jobs on the plantations as an alternative to hunting, gathering and traditional agricultural practices. Resistance to these efforts has, at best, only slowed logging for short periods of time.

As though the logging isn't bad enough, mining companies want the large mineral deposits, including gold, copper, coal and iron, in the hills and

of the Dayak, who comprise 44 percent of the Sarawak [a state of Malaysia found on the island of Kalimantan] population, are not heard."

Participants in blockades have been jailed, fined, beaten and shot, with at least one killed. Protests have included creative efforts, including an attempt by three Dayak people to patent a claim on the home of Rio Tinto's executive director to develop rice paddies and fish farms.

In an effort to draw attention to their struggles, representatives of the Dayaks toured Australia in February of this year, focusing their talks on Rio Tinto's mines and their personal experiences dealing with the oppressive regime working hand in hand with the mining and timber interests.

Daniel Paras, one of the Dayak representatives, and his family were driven out of their home by the Mobile Brigade, a special troop of heavily

Why We Need Zero Cut, Reason #217: The Badger Sale

BY KAREN COULTER

Sometimes even the US Forest Service inadvertently surpasses even the most articulate voices in making the case for zero commercial extraction on public lands. For example, the Forest Service tried to pass off the Badger timber sale in eastern Oregon as a "salvage" sale with "widespread mortality" from "epidemic levels of fir engraver and Douglas fir tussock moths." They called it an imminent, large-scale stand-replacement fire just waiting to happen.

On paper, the area sounded like a disaster scene of dead trees. The Forest Service promised not to log any live old growth *outside* of riparian areas (not that it makes any sense to log *inside* riparian areas, but forest plan amendments excuse logging of "encroaching conifers" that sneak up on aspen trees in riparian areas).

Ground-truthing the sale (taking the Forest Service inventory of the area and determining its inaccuracies) in 1996 revealed a vibrant, healthy forest, about 90- to 95-percent green, well within normal endemic levels of insect and disease activity. Somewhat shocked by the Forest Service's blatant misrepresentation, I called the district office and asked how much of the sale *they* thought was green. "At least 75 percent" was the answer. Well, that made things easy, as this was enough to bump Badger out of the Salvage Rider (the day before its auction) for not meeting the definition of an appropriate Rider sale. Victory #1! But trust the Forest Service to never give up on logging an area (especially in an isolated district unaccustomed to the scrutiny of environmentally minded citizens).

In the spring of 1997, the district re-offered Badger for sale. The Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project (BMBP) commented on it, as did other groups and dedicated individuals who had seen the sale area and fallen in love with it. No one who commented critically was sent the decision notice, lessening our chance to appeal the sale and potentially preventing us from having standing to file a lawsuit. When we found this out and confronted the district staff, they made vague comments about "office restructuring."

We checked the area again, as it was now marked for logging. We counted so many healthy ponderosa pines over 30 inches in diameter marked to be cut, we stopped counting. Many were over 40 inches, which is big and old for this arid, high desert forest transition zone (where previous high-grade logging has taken out the biggest trees). In one aspen area, we measured two live old-growth ponderosa pines 40 inches and 50 inches in diameter that were marked to cut.

Since some of our time had been stolen by the district's failure to send us a

decision notice, we cried foul and asked the Forest Service for a full period in which to prepare our appeal. We sent our letters describing all the big old trees marked for cutting to the forest supervisor and regional office, and the decision notice was withdrawn. Victory #2! In a meeting between BMBP, the district staff, the district ranger, the forest supervisor and his staff, the district ranger did not even attempt to explain why old-growth trees outside the riparian areas were marked to cut. Instead, he just admitted that he'd found some of the trees, and yes, they would be remarked to save.

Never trust the Forest Service. We went out and rechecked a lot of the sale units *after* the district assured us that the old growth had been completely remarked. We found live old-growth pine still marked to be cut in every unit we checked. A very consistent pattern of "mistakes" was discovered. To this date, the trees have not been remarked.

Okay, to make a long story short, we went through psychological warfare with the Forest Service and industry representatives who attacked our opinions with no referee. Our concerns weren't resolved. We appealed the sale and have thrown the book at them in court. A lawsuit was filed in January of this year.

Badger is a magnificent area with stunning old-growth ponderosa pine groves surrounded by wastelands from prior logging. We can't let old-growth pine groves, as well as pileated and white-headed woodpeckers, elk, songbirds, the Malheur mottled sculpin (a fish listed as sensitive under the Endangered Species Act), the Sierra onion (another sensitive-listed plant), pine marten, wolverine and redband trout be ravaged by the Badger sale.

So, we're asking *you* to help us stop this travesty now. Please write and call the officials listed below. Demand the complete and permanent cancellation of the Badger sale and ask that the area's old-growth groves be afforded permanent protection from logging. This forest is far more valuable as a wildlife

preserve, with all unnecessary roads and cattle removed, than as disposable products for a gluttonous consumer society. The continued clearcutting of forests east of the Cascades creates an unsustainable economic boom that will lead to an inevitable crash. Eventually the resource-extraction economy will have to come to terms with dwindling resources.

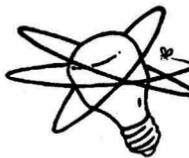
Please contact the following villains so we can achieve a lasting victory in stopping the Badger sale. Dan Glickman, Secretary of the USDA, 14th and Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250; (202) 720-3631; Bob Williams, Regional Forester, Region 6, POB 3623 Portland, OR 97208-3621; (503) 808-2200; Jim Lyons, USDA, OSEC NRE Rm. 217 E, Mailstop 0108, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250; (202) 720-7173.



Badger: a disaster scene of dead trees? You be the judge.

Photo courtesy of the Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project

MOBILE CHERNOBYL



BY ROXANE GEORGE

Perpetuating ill-conceived nuclear waste policies, Congress passed legislation last year to accommodate the nuclear industry at a tremendous cost to the US public. Collectively known as Mobile Chernobyl, HR. 1270 and S. 104 mandate transportation of nuclear wastes to an "interim" storage site near Yucca Mountain, Nevada, the location currently under consideration as a permanent, centralized repository for high-level nuclear wastes. If Mobile Chernobyl passes, either thousands of waste shipments will have to be transported twice through communities (once to interim storage and again to a permanent storage site) or Yucca Mountain will become a *de facto* permanent repository, even though it isn't safe.

Department of Energy (DOE) representatives often proclaim that the proposed site in the Mojave Desert is nothing but a worthless arid wasteland where no one lives. The Western Shoshone, the people indigenous to the area, continued struggle to defend their culture and the land sacred to them. The DOE and Congress also discount the plants and animals that call this area home, including the threatened desert tortoise. Congress is more interested in fulfilling the reckless promise the government made in the '50s to take the wastes created by the energy "too cheap to meter." Many years later, the repercussions of that decision have come fully to bear.

The communities now targeted for waste transport are showing vehement opposition. And the news from Yucca Mountain studies confirms what many knew all along: There is no good place to dump nuclear waste, especially here.

More than a decade of study and the expenditure of billions of dollars have revealed that Yucca Mountain may be a particularly unsuitable site for permanent waste storage. The area contains no fewer than 33 earthquake faults and has a class four earthquake zone designation, the highest United States Geological Survey rating. As recently as June 1992, a 5.6-magnitude quake struck nearby, causing substantial damage to project surface facilities. The repository rock is highly fractured, and important questions about underground water movement remain unanswered.

So how is it that Congress voted to expose this region to the risks involved in transporting thousands of nuclear wastes shipments to an unsafe site? Simple. The nuclear industry, desperate to get the costs and liability for its wastes transferred to the public, poured more money into lobbying and campaign contributions than ever before.

The industry argued that there is a waste storage crisis and that the government has a responsibility to take the waste because rate payers have paid billions into a nuclear waste fund. A federal court has found, however, that while the government's contract for the waste is binding, it can pay the additional costs of prolonged storage at a reactor rather than accepting waste without a safe place to

put it. The money in the Nuclear Waste Fund is collected to fund a permanent, not interim, repository and is expected to be inadequate, even for that purpose. Interim transport and storage will only increase the deficit of funds. Industry reps also argue that storing waste in one isolated site is environmentally safer than keeping it at many reactor sites throughout the country. Some day that might be true, but only if the reactors have shut down for good. Until then, storing wastes at Yucca Mountain only increases the number of dumps by one. Reactor wastes have to remain on site for a minimum of five to ten years before they can be transported. Even the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, a Congressionally established independent oversight body, has stated that "there are no compelling technical reasons for moving commercial spent fuel to a centralized storage facility at this time."

Policy-makers must clearly acknowledge that there presently exist no safe technology for disposing of this deadly material, nor is it likely to ever be developed. The best we can hope for at this point, for the wastes that already exist, is a lesser of evils, a least unsafe solution. There are no guarantees of safety for anyone or any place near reactors, transport routes or storage sites. For these reasons, true responsibility means shutting down nuclear production now. Clinton has promised to veto the Mobile Chernobyl legislation. Please urge him to keep that promise and lobby your representatives to sustain the veto. If they voted right the first time, thank them. Organize. Groups like the Nuclear Information Resource Service (NIRS) can offer invaluable assistance.

For more information, contact Flagstaff Opposed to Nuclear Transport at 2155 E. Maple #17, Flagstaff, AZ 86004; (520) 774-6542 or 226-1884; reg3@dana.ucc.nau.edu.

TIMBER PROTEST IN PENNSYLVANIA

BY MIKE MOSS

The Allegheny National Forest is a reminder of what Eastern forests used to be. The stands of 500-year-old hemlock, white pine and beech, home of the endangered Indiana bat, are one the most heavily logged forests in the East. The forest is a day's drive from a third of the country's population and the site of the largest timber sale east of the Mississippi. It is also a national forest where direct action has never happened—until now.

On May 20, several cars packed with enthusiastic activists pulled up behind the Allegheny National Forest headquarters in Warren, Pennsylvania. With U-locks and lockboxes, a small group entered the building. After a quick "hello" to the receptionist, they cruised up a staircase and down a hallway to Forest Supervisor John Palmer's office.

Even though a meeting was in session, activists interrupted and introduced themselves. "Hello, we're Earth First! We are here for a peaceful protest. We aren't going to hurt anyone or damage any property, but we are taking over the office."

The shock on the faces of the Freddie's was wonderful! Three people locked arms in lockboxes and laid on their backs to form a lockdown triangle with a pile of overlapping legs in the middle. After an Earth First! flag was hung off the pile of feet, a fourth activist U-locked his neck to the triangle.

Outside the building, banners saying, "Stop the East Side Project" and "Camping not Cutting, Recreation for Lasting Jobs in the Allegheny" were quickly hung in the trees in front of the building. One Earth First!er chained himself to a tree to give the Freddie's a preview of what they can expect in the forest.

The action was in response to the East Side Project, also known as Mortality II, the biggest timber sale east of the Rockies. Mortality II was halted in court when a federal judge said it would require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in order to proceed. In its infinite pursuit of forest destruction, the Forest Service's EIS doubled the damage and changed the name to the East Side Project. Now it calls for

cutting 8,200 acres (3,020 acres of clearcuts) in a 141,000-acre area (one-sixth of the entire forest). It will remove 55 million board feet of wood, construct or reconstruct 90 miles of roads, spray over 3,000 acres with herbicides, and log areas previously set aside as old growth.

After two hours of songs, chants and our demand, "Get out of our forest, and we'll get out of your office!" the cops, Freddie's and an Emergency Medical Technician removed the U-lock and arrested one



The first action in defense of public forests in Pennsylvania

activist. Then, they proceeded to lift up the three-person lockbox triangle and squeeze it out the door. Still locked together, the Earth First!ers were carried down a thin, twisting staircase. One woman's arm was almost broken. The three didn't unlock until they were at the police station. Meanwhile, a group of activists outside the building handed out fliers, talked to the local people and chanted. One of the best chants of the day was "John Palmer you silly goose, East Side Project ain't multiple use!"

On that day, we alerted John Palmer and the Forest Service to an Earth First! presence in the Allegheny. All that needs to happen now is... *more action!* Legal action from the Allegheny Defense Project has reduced planned logging from 55 million board feet to 16 million. Once the Forest Service starts the East Side Project, however, we will need to put up some serious resistance.

For more information, contact the Allegheny Defense Project, POB 245, Clarion, PA 16214; (814) 226-4918; adp@envirolink.org or NYC Earth First!, Wetlands, 161 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10013; (212) 966-5244.

WOLF KILLINGS GO UNPUNISHED

BY CRAIG EVARTS

A camper shot and killed a Mexican gray wolf on April 28, just a month after it was released as part of a reintroduction program. Arizona's Gila headwaters ecosystem. Arizona Fish and Wildlife Service recaptured the wolf's pregnant mate and returned it to a wildlife refuge. She gave birth on May 5.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is responsible for investigating the shooting and providing a report to Arizona's US Attorney, who will then decide whether or not to prosecute. But the USFWS will not reveal any information about the shooter.

The potential penalty is one year in prison or a \$10,000 fine. But, according to wolf activist Tom Beno, few wolf killers are ever prosecuted. The following cases remain unresolved.

- January 1995—Wolf #13F killed by "unknown person" while eating a dead calf in central Idaho. USFWS determined that the wolf did not kill the calf. No arrests were made.

- April 1995—Wolf #10 killed by Chad McKittrick near Red Lodge, Montana. Three years after being found guilty and sentenced, he's still not paid any fines or served time.

- February 1996—Wolf #12M killed near Daniel, Wyoming. No arrests.

- March 1996—Wolf #11F killed by Jay York near Meeteetse, Wyoming. Mr. York, reputed to bill himself as "The Man Who Smoked the Wolf," was fined \$500. US Attorney David Freudenthal said, "This is an appropriate disposition."

- January 1997—Wolf #28M is killed near Three Forks, Montana. No arrests.

- Late 1997—"Auntie" of the Ninemile pack, subject of a Rick Bass book, killed near Moscow, Idaho. An investigation is "ongoing." No arrests.

- December 1997—Wolf #31M killed in Montana, north of Yellowstone. No arrests.

- December 1997—Wolf #38M suffers for 11 days after being shot north of Yellowstone. No arrests.

- March 1998—Wolf #39F, the only white wolf in Idaho is shot north of Yellowstone. She was possibly pregnant. Charges are pending.

- April 1998—Wolf #156M is shot and killed less than two miles from the release site in Arizona. No arrests.

- May 1998—Alpha pair #6F and #8M found dead in Idaho of yet to be announced causes. No arrests.

Since 1995, there have been only two arrests for the killing of 12 wolves. Five hundred dollars in fines have been paid, and no one has served any time.

Information provided by Tom Beno.

Hands Off the U'Wa, cont...

continued from front page

For over a year now, Oxy has held this death sentence, this unthinkable choice between genocide and suicide, over this semi-nomadic forest tribe. The entire amount of oil in the region is estimated to be enough to fuel the US for a mere three months.

Recently, activists from the Southern California area came together with Amazon Watch and Action Resource Center (ARC) to send a clear message to Oxy that what it is doing will not be tolerated. On Earth Day, a 23-foot mock oil pipeline was delivered to Occidental's headquarters by flatbed and carried into the front lobby. Occidental is conveniently located on the busiest intersection in the US, the crossing of Wilshire and Westwood Avenues in Los Angeles. Three activists climbed inside the carpeted, lit and double-ventilated pipeline (with battery operated intake and exhaust fans on either end). They locked down with steel lock boxes and U-locks around their necks and waited.

Stunned security guards looked on with gaping mouths and furrowed

brows. When asked by police, the guards claimed the activists had been delivered inside the pipeline—which shows how well they were paying attention. The outside of the pipeline was decorated with multiple warnings to Oxy such as, "Oxy Oil = U'wa Blood." Realistic-looking stage blood (corn syrup, red food coloring and soap) was splattered all over the pipeline and ran down the front stairs of the building. The first officer kept asking if this was an animal rights protest and, "Who locked 'em in there anyway—they couldn't have fastened themselves in now could they?," while looking accusingly at our faithful support crew.

Simultaneously, across the street, several climbers and support people took an elevator and stairwell up to the 26th-story roof of the unsuspecting Oppenheimer tower. One climber cleverly concealed her harness and butt-bag as a pregnancy, while the other stashed his backpack-full-of-banner inside of three bottomless cardboard file boxes stacked on top of each other. When the pipeline was delivered across the street, the two activists

began rappelling down the front of the building. They stopped directly opposite the upper floors of Occidental Petroleum to unfurl a 1,500-square-foot bright orange banner that read, "Warning to Oxy: Your Colombian Oil Project = Death of U'wa Indians."

Twenty-five police cars, 15 fire department units, a couple ambulances and two bicycle cops appeared on the scene. The firefighters used the jaws of life, as well as a few other tools, to extricate the activists from the pipeline, a process that lasted about two hours. Meanwhile, a public demonstration informed the gridlock-bound drivers about the issue (the police shut the street down for convenient parking of their emergency vehicles). The pipeline project kept everyone busy for awhile, and it took law enforcement a bit of time to switch their focus to the banner hangers. Firefighters set up rescue mats on the ground, and rope lines on the roof, allegedly preparing to cut windows out in an attempt to bring the climbers in. Unfortunately, dead radio batteries prevented us from informing the climbers of the police and firefighters' threats to cut down the trees below to better maneuver the air

mats. In the end, they waited about four hours for the climbers to voluntarily ascend back up to the roof, where they were arrested. Four people from the pipe, three from the banner and one on the ground with a radio, were carted off to jail to catch up on some much needed sleep.

This action is a strong warning to Occidental Petroleum to immediately stop all plans to drill on U'wa land. The notorious Shell Oil has already said it wants out of the project, although Chevron is said to be considering joining. A full page ad in the *New York Times* recently asked shareholders to divest of their stock in Oxy if it does not stop this genocidal project. A joint study by Harvard and the Organization of American States has recommended the immediate and unconditional suspension of all Occidental's drilling plans.

For more information or addresses to write the corporations or governments involved, please contact either: Amazon Watch at 20110 Rockport Way, Malibu CA 90265; (310) 456-1340; <http://www.amazonwatch.org> or Action Resource Center at POB 2104 Venice, CA 90294; (310) 396-3254.

VIRTUAL SQUADS

ELECTRONIC DISTURBANCE THEATER OCCURRED ON THE TENTH OF APRIL, MAY AND JUNE, OCCUPYING MEXICAN PRESIDENT ZEDILLO'S WEB SITE. SOON THEREAFTER, THE ZEDILLO ADMINISTRATION CONVENED TO DISCUSS INTERNET INTERFERENCE. CHECK OUT [HTTP://WWW.NYU.EDU/PROJECTS/WRAY/ECD.HTML](http://www.nyu.edu/projects/wray/e.cd.html) TO GET INVOLVED.

continued from front page

Immediately following the January 1, 1994 Zapatista uprising in Chiapas, Mexico, EZLN communiqués began to appear on e-mail listservs all over the world. This rapid widespread dispersal of communiqués and other information, and the subsequent establishment of intercontinental networks of solidarity and resistance, are among the reasons the Zapatistas survive.

In the 1980s we saw the emergence of the computer hackers—people skilled in programming with the technical knowledge to break into computer systems in order to disrupt, remove, add or destroy information. Early hackers were seduced by the pure joy of figuring out ways to hack into the computers of the Department of Defense, banks or other large-scale computer-dependent institutions that maintain massive databases. Some young hackers later turned corporate, applying their sharply honed skills as security specialists. But the first generation of hackers is still around and active. Moreover, a second generation of hackers emerged in the 1990s. While all hackers are clearly not adverse to transgressing the boundary between the legal and the illegal, not all are political. The politicized hacker, however, is a growing subset of the larger hacker world.

We are witness to a convergence of the computerized activist and the politicized hacker. This coming together of forces will open up unforeseen doors and possibilities. As a way to envision what this hybridized activist-hacker might engage in, it is instructive to borrow the metaphor of civil disobedience with its tactics of trespass and blockade. When we apply this metaphor to cyberspace we imagine electronic civil disobedience.

The National Commission for Democracy in Mexico called for protests at Mexican consulates on April 10 to coincide with major mobilizations in Mexico City. Soon thereafter, the New York Zapatistas called a protest at the Mexican consulate in Manhattan and endorsed a call for electronic civil disobedience. That news moved swiftly across the Net.

Just as people may physically trespass upon real property, people may trespass upon virtual property. Just as people may blockade entranceways to buildings, offices or factories, people may blockade entranceways to portals in cyberspace, to the doors and bridges that allow entrance and egress into corporate or governmental computer systems. This level of cyber-activism is still in its incubation period. While radical social movements have used e-mail for the last ten years and website-based communication for almost five, the strategies and tactics of disrupting the electronic fabric are still being developed.

Electronic civil disobedience already occurred earlier this year. Following the Acteal massacre of 45 indigenous people in Chiapas, Mexico in late December 1997, there was a global upsurge of condemnation. Information about the massacre and announcements of protests at Mexican consulates and embassies were transmitted over the Net. The largest response was in the form of physical street protest, drawing crowds of 5,000 to 10,000 in places like Spain and Italy. But there were also calls for actions in cyberspace. On the low end of cyber-activism, people sent large amounts of e-mail to selected targets. In some of these instances, the intent may only have been to deliver a powerful message. But if pushed to its limits, massive amounts of e-mail can cause system overload.

In January, the Anonymous Digital Coalition issued a plan for virtual sit-ins on five websites of Mexico City financial corporations. They issued information about the time zones so people could act together at 10 a.m. Mexico City time. They instructed people to use their Internet browsers to repeatedly reload the websites of these financial institutions, requiring many people to repeatedly

strike certain keys on their keyboards. If many people together send a reload request to a website, it can effectively blockade access to the site. The site becomes overloaded with requests.

Building on this relatively unsophisticated method of repeated simultaneous downloading, software has emerged that automates this action. These small programs are called ping engines. They are basically small looped programs that impart the same instructions repeatedly. Pinging some sites may have relatively little impact, especially sites that don't get much traffic. But pinging, and hence blocking, highly trafficked sites that contain "useful" information may cause a greater disturbance.

Another tool is the offshore spam engine, a form-driven website based in another country that enables a user to automatically distribute massive quantities of e-mail to particular addresses. One problem associated with the offshore spam engine is that once a targeted address becomes aware of an e-mail onslaught, a cyber security team can put up barriers.

Besides devices that act upon the entranceways, programmers are now developing intelligent agents that can crawl through a website. One such agent is called a spider.

Good spiders are designed to crawl quickly through websites in search of pertinent information. But bad spiders are being designed to crawl very slowly with the intent of causing disruption.

Issues of personal security arise when considering tactics that go beyond sending messages with political content to an adversary, i.e. when the message form becomes a disruptive instrument.

It is not illegal to send letters expressing dissent to government or corporate e-mail addresses. But questions of legality emerge with the application of more sophisticated techniques that automate dispersion of multiple electronic signals that cause an electronic disturbance. The higher a hacker is on the tactical scale, the more crucial it is to mask identities and not leave traces of actions. Having several different free e-mail accounts under assumed names is one way to accomplish this goal. A number of websites now offer free e-mail accounts where anonymity is possible.

Given that this politicized hacker/computerized activist hybridization is still in its incubation period, we can only expect that sophisticated tactics like ping engines, spiders and offshore spam engines are early prototypes of more to come. While these types of computerized tactics come out of people's experience within the context of the global pro-Zapatista movement, other radical social movements are also showing signs of interest in these new cybernetic direct action tactics. Urbanized environmental movements, like the efforts of the Lower East Side Collective in Manhattan to save community gardens from city encroachment, have started to go on-line using their computers and modems to send fax jams to New York City government offices [see article page 22].

There must now be thousands of activists throughout the world who are independently coming to similar conclusions about how we can use computers to take political action that goes beyond political communication. While valid arguments can be raised against the computer, and against the technological society that the computer engenders, it is foolish to turn one's back on that machine, especially when the machine offers possibilities for resistance to the very society that created it. Those already convinced of the efficacy of computers for political action should continue. Those with critical stances toward computers should take a second look and consider how computers might be used as instruments for committing widespread massive electronic civil disobedience against the corporate, governmental and financial institutions currently responsible for destruction of life on this planet.

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AW SHIT! PASSIVE HIPPIES ARE MORE FUN TO SMASH...

Things You Can Do For The Earth... FROM PRISON

BY CRAIG EVARTS

The *Earth First! Journal* has many readers who live in correctional facilities. Many of those readers send poems, pictures and letters. Many ask what they can do while in prison to help the environment. One inmate suggested this:

The California State Prison System has a program that eco-inmates could latch on to. Five

cities in California now have their trash sorted by inmates. The inmates and their guards cruise out to the Correctional Resource Recovery Facility. The inmates sort 100 tons of trash a day, retrieving glass, steel, aluminum, two grades of newspaper, office paper, mixed paper, plastics and other scrap metal. Even organic material is sent to be composted. Under the program the city of Folsom has reduced its waste to 54 percent of

what it was in 1990. The inmates earn between 50 and 95 cents an hour, which is not bad for corporate prison slave wages when you figure food, rent, electricity, clothes and commute costs are paid for.

Fidel Castro and friends organized a revolution from prison, and this idea can be just the beginning of your political career in the clink. Petition the warden today to start a sorting program at your facility.



Predators Returning to the *Wild* Southwest

Rising from the Sonoran Desert, through America's largest contiguous ponderosa pine forest to snowbound spruce peaks, the Gila Headwaters/Sky Island Bioregion is a wilderness jewel. Twenty million acres of rugged canyons, sparkling peaks, and desert rivers. The Gila Headwaters is ranked with the North Cascades, Central Idaho, and the Everglades as one of America's six premier wildlands by Foreman and Wolke in *The Big Outside*. They rightfully call it "the best opportunity for an ecologically complete Wilderness in the Southwest."

Which means predators—big ones—because no ecosystem is complete without them. The ranching industry and its subsidized government guns eradicated major predators from much of the American West by the first half of this century. They also slaughtered prairie dogs, elk, beaver, coyotes, and every other real or imagined threat to their cattle, including Apache people.

The Mexican gray wolf, the grizzly bear, and the jaguar once haunted these mountain wilds with majesty and grace. The loss of these species changed the ecosystem dramatically. It also fundamentally changed the human relationship to the land, because a land without wolves is a different land.

"Since the beginning, time had gnawed at the basaltic hulk of Escudilla, wasting, waiting, and building. Time built three things on the old mountain, a venerable aspect, a community of minor animals and plants, and a grizzly."

—Aldo Leopold

The Land With Bears

"Life in Arizona," wrote Leopold in the 1930's "is bounded underfoot by gramma grass, overhead by sky, and on the horizon by Escudilla." Escudilla bounded and defined the land (and human place within it) because Escudilla was the home of Old Bigfoot:

"When the warm winds had softened the shadows on the snow, the old grizzly crawled out of his hibernation den in the rock slides and, descending the mountain, bashed in the head of a cow. Eating his fill, he climbed back to his crags, and there summered peaceably on marmots, conies, berries, and roots...No one ever saw the old bear, but in the muddy springs about the base of the cliffs you saw his incredible tracks. Seeing them made the most hard-bitten cowboys aware of bear. Wherever they rode they saw the mountain, and when they saw the mountain, they thought of bear."

But to leave even one place for the grizzly is unthinkable to the mind of commerce. Government trappers were called in at taxpayers expense to kill the grizzly, so that the livestock industry could make even more money off public lands—on the grizzly's land, its mountain.

"The government trapper who took the grizzly knew he had made Escudilla safe for cows. He did not know he had toppled the spire off an edifice a-building since the morning stars sang together...he did not know that the spires might be as important as cows...Escudilla still hangs on the horizon, but when you see it, you no longer think of bear. It's only a mountain now."

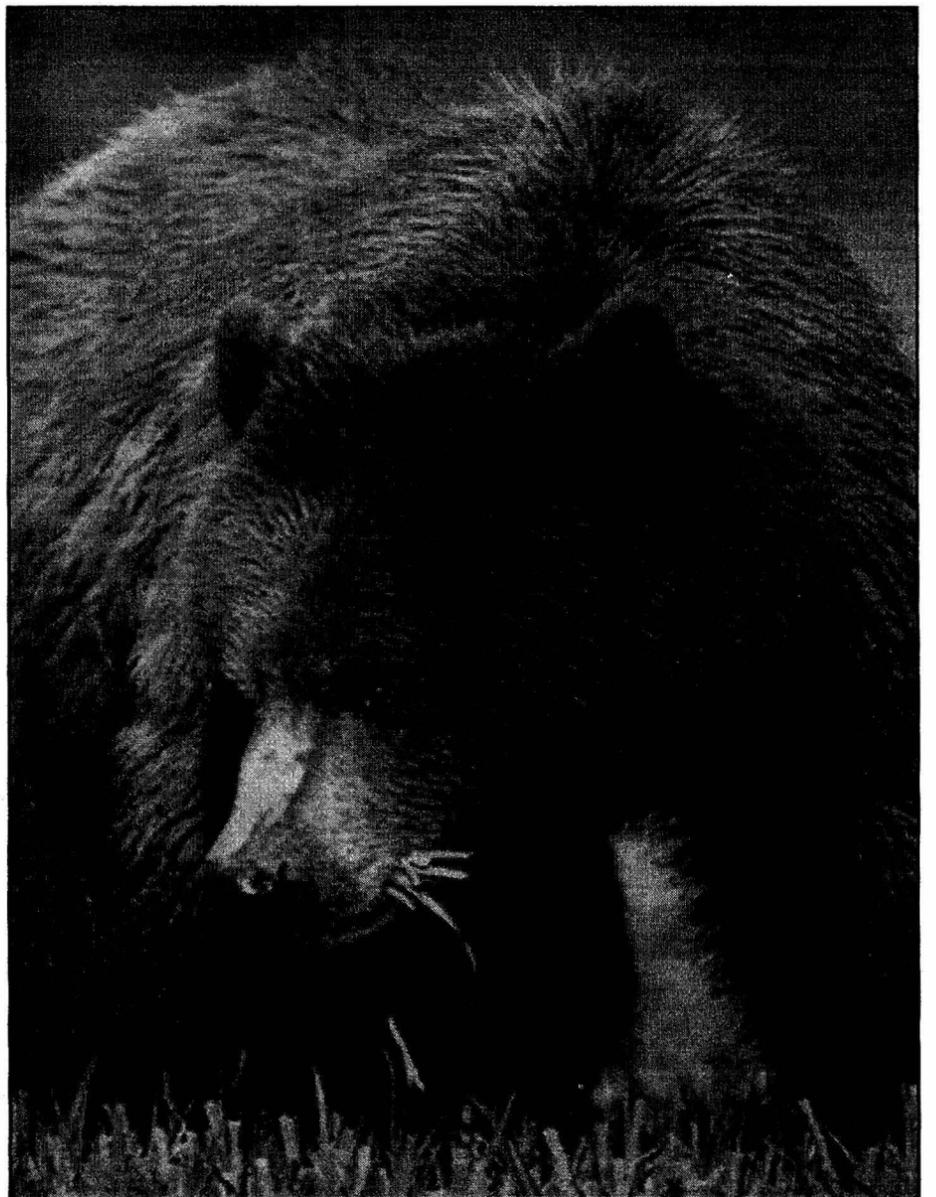
Wolves and Cats Coming Back

Leopold envisioned a day when people would remember the value of grizzlies, wolves, jaguars, and river otters. When a sense of beauty, rightness, and sharing would prevail. That time has come. This spring, the first wildborne wolf pups in many decades stirred in the Blue Primitive Area. They were borne to a group of 11 wolves in three packs, reintroduced to the Gila Headwaters/Sky Island Ecosystem

in 1998. The Blue was chosen because it has over 500,000 acres of roadless country in which to roam. An additional 1.2 million roadless acres lay nearby in the Gila and Aldo Leopold Wilderness Areas. In all, the seven largest roadless areas in the Gila Headwaters create a wildlife haven of over 2.1 million acres.

Though one male wolf has already been shot, the rewilding of the Gila has begun and will continue with an inevitable force. Jaguars are coming back on their own. Once thought extinct in the U.S., they have been seen along the Mexican border in recent years, testing the waters to see if the time is right for its return. It is. For the first time since cattle arrived in the Southwest some 400 years ago, the grip of the livestock industry over our public lands, tax dollars, and wildlife is loosening. Lawsuits, petitions, appeals, agency whistleblowers, and public outcry have forced cattle off over 250 miles of streams in the Gila Headwaters/Sky Island Ecosystem this year. Logging has decreased by 85% in the last decade thanks to the Mexican spotted owl, northern goshawk, and a plethora of lawsuits and public outrage.

The Gila is the Southwest's great wilderness ecosystem—the last, best place for endangered predators. As antiquated extractive industries phase out, we have a chance, perhaps our last, to learn to live once again with the land, its rivers, and its great bears, wolves, jaguars, and goshawks.



"From its slightly ramshackle pink adobe headquarters in a working-class neighborhood of Tucson, the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity has launched a fusillade of dozens of legal actions against federal agencies seeking greater protections for everything from large mammals like the jaguar to obscure insects like Thorne's hairstreak butterfly."

—Washington Post, 1998

The Mexican Gray Wolf

Wolves were extirpated from various ranges in the U.S. and are now endangered not because of habitat loss—but because of a federal, state, and private campaign to exterminate them. The reason: ranchers wanted them gone.

Starting in 1914, Congress appropriated \$115,000 to hire hundreds of federal hunters whose primary job was killing every wolf, mountain lion, coyote, and major predator in the nation. The Mexican gray wolf, a subspecies of *canis lupus* unique to the American Southwest and Mexico, was completely exterminated from the United States by the mid 1920's. For decades after this, however, the government kept a full-time trapper on duty along the Peloncillo and Animas Mountains of southwestern New Mexico to kill wolves migrating north from Mexico. But in the 1950's, with export of the deadly new poison, Compound 1080, the population in Mexico began to crash as well, and today it is questionable whether any wild wolves remain south of the border.

This past spring 11 Mexican wolves—progeny of a tiny handful of survivors captured alive in Mexico—were reintroduced into the Blue Range of southeastern Arizona. The Blue Range was the site of Aldo Leopold's killing of a wolf in 1909—an act he later lamented in his famous "fierce green fire" passage of *A Sand County Almanac*.

The wolves were released under the "experimental, nonessential" provisions of the Endangered Species Act, which precludes designation of critical habitat and allows killing of wolves that kill livestock under some circumstances. But this sop to ranchers has not prevented one wolf from being shot already.

The murdered wolf's pregnant mate was recaptured by Fish and Wildlife for fears she could not feed her pups alone. Another wolf who strayed west outside the bounds of the official recovery area, was also re-imprisoned. There are hopes, however, that two other Mexican wolves may have given birth in the wild—a first in the United States in over half a century.

The recovery area for Mexican wolves includes the entirety of the Gila National Forest, as well as the Blue Range. But it excludes adjacent public lands. While the Gila is clearly the best remaining habitat for the species in the Southwest, ultimately wolf corridors should be reestablished in the Peloncillo Range—and the species that strove for decades to reoccupy its northern-most habitat should be allowed to migrate south and reclaim the entire borderless ecosystem it once knew as home.

"The Southwest Center is unapologetic about its "no compromise" stance. When species have reached crisis numbers and habitat is so diminished, there is no room for compromise..."

—Kern Valley Sun, 1997



The Jaguar

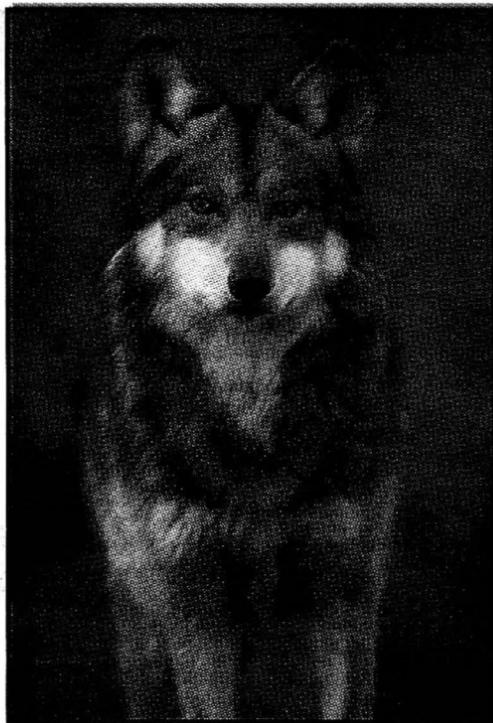
Full of power and grace, the jaguar is a symbol of mystery and wilderness throughout the Americas. *El tigre* is known far and wide as a magical cat—elusive, crafty, and fierce. While they prefer to live near warm, wet, riverine areas, jaguars thrive in a multitude of habitats from the jungle to desert to pine forests.

So powerful was the jaguar that ancient civilizations worshiped it as a god. Now it is on the brink of extinction. Centuries of reverence quickly turned to hatred. Hunting, logging, overgrazing, rampant development, and government predator "control" programs have all but eliminated the western hemisphere's largest cat from the American Southwest.

The jaguar once roamed free throughout Southern California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas—with sightings recorded as far north as the Grand Canyon. Now, this magnificent cat has only been seen a handful of times since 1994 in the remote mountains of Southern Arizona and New Mexico.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) claims it "accidentally" failed to list the jaguar as endangered in the U.S. through an "oversight" in 1973. The oversight was never rectified and hope for the imperiled cat quietly faded away.

In 1997, the FWS finally relented and ordered the jaguar to be listed as endangered in Arizona and New Mexico, and threatened in Texas. The listing was the result of a series of Southwest Center lawsuits, beginning in 1993. Historically, cattle ranchers and others have hunted the jaguar into near-oblivion. Fortunately, a few jaguars survive along the border of Mexico. We are now working to reintroduce the jaguar to its historical range throughout the Gila River Basin.

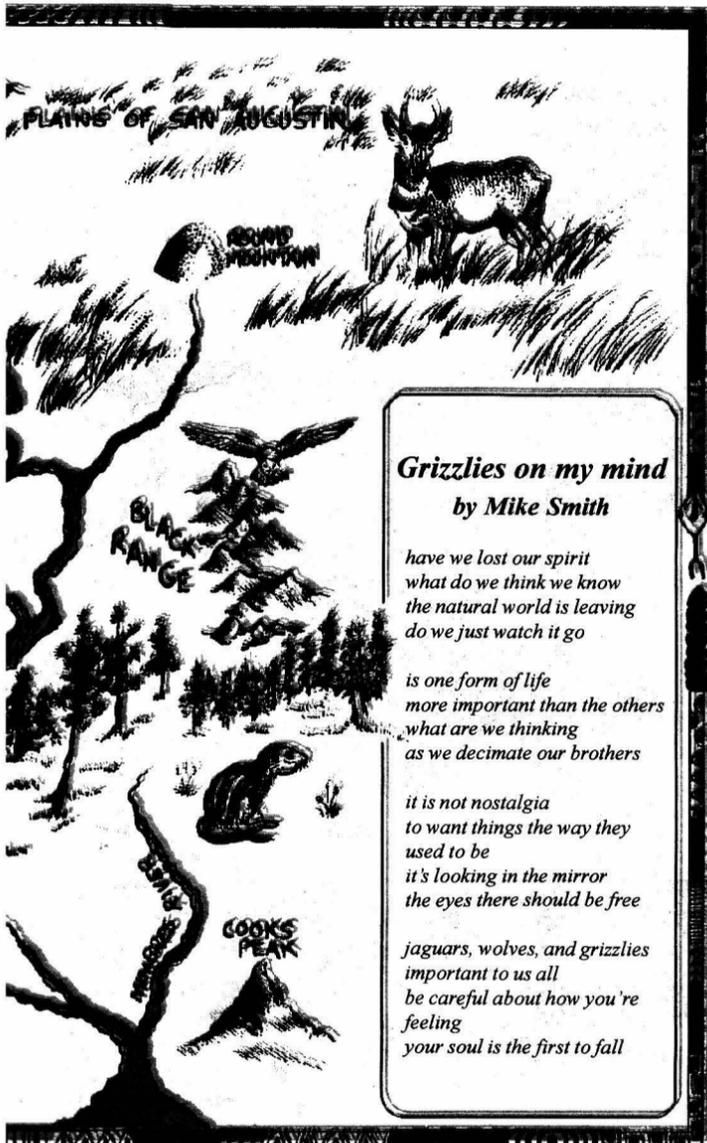


Native Trout

Native trout are synonymous with wilderness. There is no better indicator of clean water, cool forests, and healthy watersheds. The Gila Headwaters/Sky Island Bioregion is the Southwest's great trout wilderness. It is the only ecosystem which supports three of the Southwest's four native trout. The *Rio Grande cutthroat trout* lives on the eastern slope in streams draining into the Rio Grande River. The *Gila trout* is nestled in the heart of the Bioregion in the wilderness headwaters of the Gila River. The *Apache trout* reigns in the northwest corner, in the headwaters of the Salt River which eventually joins the Gila in the desert far below.

The Gila and Apache trout are already listed as endangered species because of overgrazing, road incursions, and stocking of non-native trout. In February 1998, the Southwest Center, Sky Island Watch, and Southwest Trout teamed up to put the Rio Grande cutthroat on the Endangered Species list as well. Overgrazing, logging, road construction, and fish stocking have driven it from 95% of its former range.

There is no excuse for allowing subsidized public lands cattle in the Gila Headwaters to trample its streams beds, pollute its waters, and chomp its riparian forests to dust. The Southwest Center filed a petition to designate 16 entire watersheds, from top to bottom, as critical habitat for the Gila Trout and will soon challenge the Fish & Wildlife Service's anemic trout recovery plan.



Grizzlies on my mind
by Mike Smith

have we lost our spirit
what do we think we know
the natural world is leaving
do we just watch it go

is one form of life
more important than the others
what are we thinking
as we decimate our brothers

it is not nostalgia
to want things the way they
used to be
it's looking in the mirror
the eyes there should be free

jaguars, wolves, and grizzlies
important to us all
be careful about how you're
feeling
your soul is the first to fall

The Mexican Spotted Owl

The remote forested canyons of the Gila Headwaters/Sky Island Bioregion contain the world's largest Mexican spotted owl population. The Pinaleños, White Mountains, Mogollon Highlands, and the Black Range still harbor great stands of old growth harboring the secretive owl and its prey. In the mid-1980's, having decimated most of the Southwest's flatland old growth, the Forest Service set its sights on liquidating the deep canyon firs—putting it on a collision course with the Mexican spotted owl. In 1989, Robin Silver the Southwest Center's Conservation Chair, petitioned to list the owl as an endangered species. In 1995 the Southwest Center led a coalition which won a lawsuit designating 4.8 million acres of critical habitat, including huge swaths of the Gila Headwaters. Later that year, just as the Salvage Rider hit, the Southwest Center led another coalition in a suit which shut down logging on 11 national forests for 16 months until the Forest Service agreed to implement the Fish & Wildlife Service's spotted owl recovery plan.

The owl is not secure yet, however. The Forest Service consistently violates the recovery plan and even managed to change it to allow salvage logging in "protected" areas. The loggers, meanwhile, convinced a court to strike down the critical habitat because of a legal technicality. So it's back to the courts and back to the woods until all the forests of the Gila and Southwest are permanently protected.

"When it comes to wilderness preservation, a small, grassroots group out of Tucson, Arizona, is proof that the big guys don't always win. In fact, when you look at the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity's track record, you realize that if this group comes after you, there's a fairly good chance you'll be on the losing end."

—Backpacker Magazine, 1998

The Northern Goshawk

The goshawk is legendary for its ferocity and beauty. In ancient Persia it was called *Baz-Nama*, the King Hawk. Linnaeus named the species *Accipiter gentilis* in the 16th century, for its nobility (*gentilis*) and awesome ability to seize (*accipere*) squirrels, rabbits, birds, and other prey on the fly.

Goshawks have lived in and coevolved with old growth forests in the West for thousands of years. Powerful, short rounded wings, and protective eye tufts enable them to blast explosively through the forest understory in pursuit of prey. Their incredible maneuverability comes from their long, rudder-like tail, which can quickly spin them around trees or dive them under shrubs and brush. No other forest raptor combines the goshawk's speed, maneuverability, ferocity. They will even attack bears and wolves that come too close to their nests.

The Gila Headwaters/Sky Island Bioregion is the only ecosystem in the



world to support both the Apache goshawk and the Northern goshawk. Both subspecies, however, are severely threatened by logging, overgrazing, and industrial scale recreation. The wolf, grizzly, and jaguar have already been driven out of the Southwest, the goshawk may be the next to go if the Gila's magnificent ponderosa pine mesas and fir clad canyons are not completely protected soon—and forever!

In 1991, the Southwest Center petitioned the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to list all goshawks in the western U.S. as endangered. Because of the tremendous blow this would deliver to the timber industry, the agency twice turned our petition down. Both times, however, we took them to court and won prompting a federal judge to note that the agency seems to have a policy against listing species as endangered if they live in trees valued by the timber industry.

The Grizzly Bear

Just 150 years ago, between 50,000 and 100,000 grizzlies roamed western North America, ranging from the Great Plains to the California beaches. Grizzly bears were once common in the Southwest, where 1,000 to 2,000 grizzlies likely inhabited grasslands, riversides, and mountains. Today, barely 800 grizzlies live in the contiguous states. None remain in the Southwest. Grizzly bears currently occupy less than two percent of their original range and numbers.

The introduction of millions of cattle and sheep in the late 19th century—without regard for the land's capacity to produce forage—led to the disappearance of this widespread, intelligent bear. Livestock eliminated much of the vegetation that comprises around 90 percent of the grizzly's diet. As a result, some bears turned to livestock. And starting in 1914, Congress began appropriating money to a special government agency designed to exterminate stock-eating animals.

Grizzly bears were almost wiped out through predator control, habitat destruction, commercial trapping, and hunting. In the 1930's, the last known grizzly bear in New Mexico was killed in the Gila Wilderness after being discovered near a dead cow. Grizzlies were first listed as threatened with extinction in the lower 48 states in 1975.

The Southwest Center has renewed the call for grizzly bear reintroduction into the Gila Headwaters. We are in the process of working with other groups and scientists to update a 1974 grizzly reintroduction study and to begin educating the public on the very realistic, achievable, and socially desirable goals of bringing the



great bear back to the wilds of the Southwest.

While trying to recreate and rebuild the pieces of a shattered ecosystem, the Southwest Center has been heartened to learn that there are millions of people who see the beauty and majesty of wilderness areas and know that creatures like the grizzly bear have a rightful place here.

Protecting the Gila Headwaters/ Sky Island Bioregion

Oust the Cows!

Cattle grazing is undoubtedly the most ubiquitous form of ecosystem degradation in the West. A recent study by the Forest Service determined that cattle grazing is the most prevalent threat to endangered species in the Southwest. In this arid region, cattle grazing was just never meant to be. Yet federal and state land agencies continue to allow cattle to dominate the public landscape.

For over a century, the cattle industry has eaten, trampled, and fouled Southwest rivers and riparian forests. The Rio Grande cutthroat trout, Southwestern willow flycatcher, loach minnow, Chiricahua leopard frog, cactus ferruginous pygmy owl, and Gila trout are just a few of the dozens of Southwest species being driven to extinction by overgrazing on public lands.

Welfare Ranchers Abuse the Land

Cattle ranching on federal public lands is subsidized to the tune of \$300 million annually, when taking into account the plethora of federal activities that directly and indirectly support livestock grazing. Our tax dollars are footing the bill for these land barons to overgraze 270 million acres—90% of the federal public lands in the 11 western states—destroying rivers, grasslands, forests, and endangering native wildlife. This destructive government handout has to stop.

We're Ousting the Cows

• In 1997, the Southwest Center forced the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to remove cattle from all or part of 32 allotments along the middle Gila River, including the Gila Box National Riparian Conservation Area.

• In April 1998, the Southwest Center and Forest Guardians forced the Forest Service to remove cattle from 250 miles of streams on 52 allotments in the upper Gila Basin. An additional settlement is pending to oust 'em off 29 more allotments.

• Our litigation has forced the Forest Service into doing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the impacts of grazing on 13 endangered species. However, they are still ignoring many other species including the Sonora chub, yellow-billed cuckoo, Rio Grande cutthroat trout, and Lesser long-nosed bat. Some of the protection for fish is good, but the plan is very weak on birds. All cows need to be removed from Southwestern willow flycatcher critical habitat.

These unprecedented wins will help us to ensure the survival of native fish, birds, amphibians, and mammals. We are working on more lawsuits, with the

ultimate goal of removing all cows from Southwest rivers. To that end, we are now developing a federal buyout plan to get all cows off all stream sides in the 60 million acre Gila River Basin.

You Can Help Oust Cows Too

Please write to Ellie Towns, U.S. Forest Service Regional Supervisor, and demand that the EIS propose removal of cows from the Gila Basin and all habitats for Threatened & Endangered species.

Write to: Ellie Towns

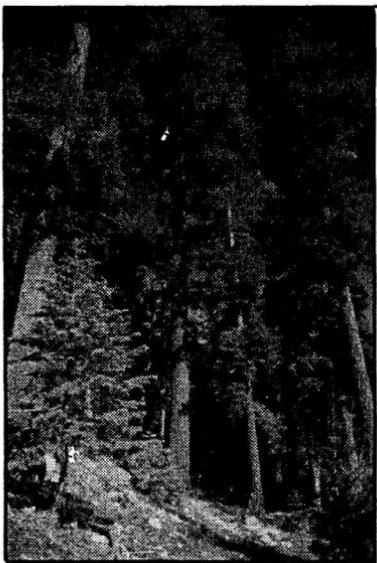
U.S. Forest Service

517 Gold Ave SW

Albuquerque NM 87102

Phone 505.842.3292 Fax 505.842.3457

Visit our web page to access the extensive resources compiled on livestock grazing. These documents will give you the information necessary to become an active participant in the management of our public lands. Our web page will also give you up to date action alerts on grazing reform and other public lands management, <http://www.sw-center.org>



Logging Massacre Proposed by Gila National Forest

Though lawsuits and petitions have dramatically decreased logging in the Gila Headwaters in recent years, the Gila National Forest is trying to jump start its timber program with the largest logging project in Southwest history. The largest threat to the wildness of the Gila high country is the recently proposed Negrito Ecosystem Project. The Gila National Forest plans to log over 90 million board feet—over 20,000 logging trucks—of timber on 65,000 acres over the next eight years. This is by far the largest timber project ever proposed on a Southwest National Forest, where timber sales typically range from 1-3 million board feet.

Incredibly, the forest has responded to an outpouring of public shock and outrage by denying the existence of its proposal! In a well planned misinformation campaign, the Gila National Forest is sending out letters and email in response to public outrage, saying that no 90 million board foot sale is planned, and that only one small timber sale is under consideration. The Forest's own *Negrito Ecosystem Analysis Report 1997*, however, clearly describes, maps, and proposes 15 timber sales totaling 90 million board feet.

Using sound science and the courts, the Southwest Center has halted or revamped over 100 timber sales. In 1995, we prevented the Gila National Forest from roading and logging eight million board feet in the Eagle Peak roadless area. For 16 months in 1995 and 1997, we stopped every timber sale on all 11 National Forests in

Arizona and New Mexico. With your help, we intend to stop the Negrito Eco-side Project as well. The Forest Service has catered to the timber industry long enough.

The Forest Service commonly proposes absurdly huge timber projects, then scales them back in negotiations, claiming they have reached a "reasonable compromise" even though that "compromise" would never have been accepted if proposed on its own. The Southwest Center will not attempt to negotiate this atrocity down to a more "reasonable" level of logging.

The Southwest Center has vowed to continuously inform the public, litigate, and if necessary occupy the site and wage a campaign comparable to the 1996 Eagle Peak Roadless Area battle. The Gila National Forest became a national disgrace in its failed effort to log Eagle Peak, which is sacred to the Zuni. The campaign exposed Forest Service employee arson, illegal alterations to the Mexican Spotted Owl Recovery Plan, and resulted in an USDA Inspector General's investigation of the Gila National Forest.

How Can You Help?

Write, call, and fax the Gila National Forest today! Tell them the project should be permanently abandoned, anything short of that is unacceptable. Stay up to date on this project by checking our web page regularly for current information on the progress to stop this outrage, <http://www.sw-center.org>

Write to: Abel Camarena

Gila National Forest Supervisor

3005 E Camino del Bosque

Silver City NM 88061

Phone 505.388.8201 Fax 505.388.8204



Southwest Center for Biological Diversity Membership

Yes, I'd like to become a member of the Southwest Center and help protect the Southwest's natural environment and precious wildlife!

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 | Cactus Ferruginous Pygmy Owl | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 | Jaguar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 | Leopard Frog | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 | Golden Eagle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | Northern Goshawk | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | \$ _____ |

"The Southwest Center is one of the very few things that give me hope for the future of our priceless and irreplaceable wildlands and remaining intact ecosystems."
—SW Center Member

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

Include your E-mail address to receive our regular Biodiversity Alerts

Contributions and gifts to the Southwest Center are tax-deductible. Southwest Center for Biological Diversity PO Box 710 Tucson AZ 85702-0710 520.623.5252

RECLAIMING THE STREETS!

continued from front page

Belfeld, Germany: Police here scored in the lowest one percentile on the fun-o-meter. Organizers chose April 25 to reclaim the streets. The date marked the fifth anniversary of the A33 motorway basecamp, where police failed to disband 300 ravers, their mobile stage and a sound system.

This time, the police cordoned off the area, forbidding long-hairs, hippies and young folks from leaving. Thirty people escaped the corral; many who remained were carted off to the big house. Plainclothesed police twice lobbed tear gas at the crowd while the fire department attempted to remove two tripods. Two people who locked onto barrels were and beaten until they released. The hullabaloo of the street party provided ample opportunity for the partygoers to slash squad car tires. There were over 240 arrests.

Lyon, France: Lyon police may have the potential to be fun, but they get real serious real quick when shopping malls are involved. A tripod blocked the street under the gigantic Credit Lyonnais Tower, blocking a major parking lot of the Part-Dieu shopping mall. Unamused, the police charged the blockade, scattering the partygoers, who later found a fountain to splash around in. Two hundred people with anti-corporate costumes and signs, bicycles, drums, whistles and a float joined a demonstration against the extradition of Algerians. Even dogs showed up for the party, which passed through a chorus line of exotic dancers donning feathers and bikinis for World Cup soccer events.

Lancaster, England: British police always seem to have their knickers in a twist about something, and Lancaster cops are no exception. (Wouldn't you if you were a cop without a gun?) Dalton Square was heavily patrolled by police and other evidence gatherers in vans, on motorbikes and on horses. Costumes, volleyball, a sound system and drumming occupied a roundabout, where party guests used paint and foam prolifically on anything that stood still. The square was filled with an anarchist bookstand, food, music and a dragon that the kids chased. A stranded car was slowly beaten to death. The cops chaperoned the ball, standing three or four lines deep. They initially sported head gear, then donned more appropriate evening attire, full riot gear. Apparently the police bullies were bummed that no one asked them to dance, because once the party started rocking, the cops pushed their way in and demanded to search bags. The crowd did not give way and forced the police back out of the party, mobilizing to reclaim the main street. Police truncheons whacked a few partygoers, and a few bottles were thrown, all with little or no damage.

Brisbane, Australia: Lookin' for a good time? Then don't call the Brisbane police. They'd probably just cuff ya and stuff ya into a paddy wagon. It took them an hour to turn off the music (must have been one of them newfangled extension cords). They then promptly towed the source away. Despite this, 200 party guests danced, drummed and whistled for another few hours then went home, their spirits undaunted. Nine were arrested.

Birmingham, England: Birmingham's police may be fun someday. But for now they're not. They had to be run out of the party attended by 60,000 people. One officer was custard-pied for attempting to take the sound system.

A samba band, volleyball, banners, clowns, a tripod and thousands of people set the atmosphere for the G8 superpower summit scheduled to take place in Birmingham, as did the techno sound system, fire eaters and banner-hanging lamp-post scalers. Donated boxes of lettuce, tomatoes and cucumbers became ammunition to hurl at police. The Stars and Stripes and Union Jack were set ablaze atop a bus while other activists overturned a car.

Finally the cops figured out how to attach wheels to a tripod, and rolled it away.

Geneva, Switzerland: An aperitif before the party might have loosened up the Swiss police enough to enjoy themselves. Instead, those who patrol the opu-

lent streets of one of the world's richest cities became especially uptight when the party of several thousand people neared the headquarters of the World Trade Organization, where heads of states were gathered to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Global Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the World Trade Organization. Perhaps they can take fun classes from the anarchist party guests who unfurled their rage on banks, jewelry stores and McDonalds, smashing windows, hurling paint bombs, torching a car and scribbling anti-globalization graffiti. The party-pooing-pigs ruined the mood by bombarding the crowds with tear gas, and received a storm of stones and bottles in return. A police helicopter and a line of riot cops kept watch on the party.

Berlin, Germany: The Berlin police seemed hungover from the May Day riots that created a wave of anti-police-violence sentiment. The Germans considered their cops well-behaved, saying there were "only three arrests and a handful of people were hit by police."

The RTS party went off big with almost 1,000 folks claiming an intersection in the center of Berlin. The demonstrators' spirits were high as they smoked, drank and played volleyball and chess to the music of Radikal Rave.

Ljubljana, Slovenia: Forty people reclaimed the streets by cruising around on bicycles, roller-skates, wheelchairs and on foot, averaging 5.3 km/hour.

Tallinn, Estonia: Their *in absentia* status won these cops fun points when 50 bicyclists and pedestrians converged alongside a six-lane road at the former site of a crosswalk. In a town where pedestrian crossings are increasingly rare and often obstructed by barricades, people held a commemoration of the 25 cyclists and 73 pedestrians killed by cars last year. Twenty-five cyclists covered themselves and their bikes with white blankets. Expecting to witness an



In Seattle, a Nike shoe gave cars the boot.

actual accident, cars slowed down to view the carnage. People carried a banner reading, "Kellele kiirteed piirded," or, "Some get highways, others get fences."

Retaining the street party spirit, 900 cyclists did a three-day tour in central Estonia, obstructing traffic on some of the nation's busiest road.

Tel Aviv, Israel: Even Dick Clark might have given the Tel Aviv police a 32 for having a beat he could dance to. Festival-goers secured a permit in advance for the two-street party, allowing them to publicize their event on radio, television and in newspapers. When over 500 people showed up, the police just made sure attendees didn't get hit by cars.

BIRMINGHAM
CITY CENTRE
CLOSED TO TRAFFIC

The truck with the sound system met the party in a seaside parking lot, and people in the streets turned the traffic jam into a road rave. There were boisterous demands for clean air, public transportation and bicycle lanes. The party was part of the campaign against the Trans-Israel Highway.

Berkeley, California: A little beer and a lot of pot may be responsible for the mellowness Berkeley police force. They made like wallflowers as partygoers paraded and bicycled through the streets. Four hundred people reclaimed Telegraph Ave. with a disc jockey, fire eaters, a bonfire, free food and a television smash. Police intervened only to extinguish the fire and prevent area apartment dwellers from throwing water balloons at the crowd below.

Sydney, Australia: Consider inviting Sydney police to your next party. Though they played hard-to-get with idle threats of interference, the cops allowed the 94-decibel party to proceed. The Solidarity Choir, drummers, disc jockeys, a Central Techno Sound Tower and Hip-Hop/Reggae/Dub sound stage and electric string quartet dazzled the attendees. Four thousand people attended. Sydney RTSers perhaps charmed the police with their sheer decadence; they spread carpets and arranged sofas in a lounge space replete with three chai stalls, a food fundraiser, a skateboard rail, a five-terminal sidewalk Internet station, two sandstone sculptors, poets, fire twirlers, street gardeners, and recycling and garbage bins. Speakers updated the audience on the New South Wales forest campaign, the Jabiluka uranium mine, the

Multilateral Agreement on Investment and why RTS is so radical. The sights and sounds were loaded onto a laptop for frequent Internet uploads. Over 1,700 hits on the site occurred within 24 hours of the party.

Leuven, Belgium: Hell, the cops here damn near joined the party. About 250 folks partook in festivities in the middle of a busy street. When evening rolled around, the police escorted the party to a park. Belgium's first-ever RTS ended near midnight when the police politely asked the parties to please go home.

Utrecht, The Netherlands: The Utrecht police are the undisputed winners of the Golden Donut, Fun Cop Award. The five-hour street rave on May 16 was a wild dance party of 800 people

blockading a six-lane highway. Throughout the day, cops mingled with the crowd and sat on the pavement waiting for the sound equipment to arrive. When it finally did, the police helped start a generator. They eagerly followed the party wherever it took them. In early evening, the police announced that the city street cleaners would help clean the party area.

Bogota, Colombia: The planned festivities were postponed due to more pressing human rights demonstrations in response to threats against union and left-wing activists from fascist paramilitary death squads. Keep your eyes open for future actions.

Now you know which cops to invite to your next party. Streets were also reclaimed Tuscon, Arizona; Dublin, Ireland; Derry, North Ireland; Ankara, Turkey; Darwin, Australia; Gothenberg, Sweden; Nuremberg, Germany; Madrid, Spain; Vancouver, Canada; Seattle, Washington; and Stockholm, Sweden. For all our readers in law enforcement, you may notice that the more fun you are, the easier it all goes down. But when you score low on the fun-o-meter, things get broken.

The G8 summit to be held in Birmingham, England was relocated due to the RTS bash.

Photo by Eddie Teus

DISRUPTING THE POWERS THAT BE... FAX JAM

BY L. A. KAUFFMAN

Through the tactic of the fax jam, a small group of determined activists, armed only with computers and modems, can disrupt business as usual for their opponents of choice. The fax jam was pioneered by the AIDS activist group ACT UP in the late '80s and is an excellent way to involve people in direct action who have limited time for activism.

These simple instructions will show you how to conduct a fax jam without running afoul of the law. I developed these tips the hard way. One evening in October 1997, two New York Police Department detectives arrested me at my apartment and charged me with "aggravated harassment" under an anti-stalking statute. My alleged crime? Sending faxes to the New York City Partnership, New York's Chamber of Commerce.

Indeed, I had personally sent several thousand faxes to the partnership, and a large and growing e-mail list of activists (known as the E-mail Army) had begun subjecting the partnership to day-long phone and fax jams on a regular basis. We were protesting its role as the architect of a city plan to bulldoze hundreds of community gardens and replace them with \$120,000 condominiums.

The District Attorney declined to prosecute the case so the whole area of "fax crime" remains legally murky. During the process I learned a few things that can help you avoid prosecution. I had faxed the same message, "Don't bulldoze the gardens!" over and over. That left me open to the

charge that, after a certain point, the faxes had lost their communicative value and were pure harassment.

The key to First Amendment-protected faxing is to emphasize the political content of your fax so that the purpose of the fax is to communicate rather than to harass.

Of course, your purpose is to communicate your message emphatically. So you fax a long letter stating your political opinions in great detail. You write it one word to a page so that it's hundreds of pages long. You send it in coordination with others.

Creating the Faxes

In your word processing program, write a long letter stating your political opinion about the matter at hand. Use 72 point type for added emphasis and readability. You'll find that in a matter of minutes you can create a 100-page document. With just a bit more investment of time, you can easily increase that to 500 or more pages.

Save this document as a file; you could call it "faxjam." Then fax the document to your target, using your fax/modem software. Get 10, 20 or 200 people to do this on the same day, and you'll create major disruption with minimal effort.

I always put my real name and fax number on the fax. It is technically a violation of federal communications law (aimed at stopping unsolicited fax

advertising) to do otherwise. Whatever you choose to do, keep in mind that the number you use can be traced quite easily if you do something stupid, like fax a threat.

Conducting the Fax Jam Campaign

You'll need:

1. A group of activists with e-mail.

**WHICH KIND OF WORM
WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE
IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD?**



Earthworm



Real Estate Developer

SAVE THE GARDENS! 

2. Fax number(s) for your opponents.

This step can sometimes entail a bit of research, for it requires first pinpointing specific individuals who have the power to take the action you want: say, the city commissioner who could pull a community garden off the auction block.

There's no need for any cloak-and-dagger tricks to get the fax number. Just call up and ask, "May I have the number for sending faxes to so-and-so?" The receptionist will almost always give the number without further ado. (If you're

planning to go after multiple targets in a single institution, you will of course want to get all the numbers you need before the fun begins.)

3. A coordinator to call the jams by e-mail and administer the e-mail list.

Some jams are planned well in advance (to fall, say, on the anniversary of some heinous deed); these are best announced through an alert mailed one to two days beforehand. Others are called as a nearly instantaneous response to an event.

Keep your action alerts brief and concise, and place the crucial information in the first 12 lines. An example:

WHAT: Fax jam against real-estate developer Donald Capoccia.

WHY: For bulldozing four Lower East Side community gardens and scheming to bulldoze two more.

WHEN: Friday, May 1, all day long.

FAX: (212) 534-5021.

Three Cautions:

1. If your fax jams are successfully disruptive, your opponent will probably start looking for ways to make you stop. Any individual who is asked to stop faxing by a specific target should do so to avoid any possibility of a civil suit.

2. A full-scale fax jam is usually most effective fairly late in a pressure campaign, after less disruptive tactics have failed.

3. The person responsible for dealing with the fax mess is usually someone other than your actual target, most commonly a clerical worker. Our group of community garden defenders has made a habit of sending lavish bouquets or flowering plants to the receptionists affected by our jams, along with an apology for the increased work load.

BEYOND BASIC BLOCKADING

BY TIMBER WOLF

Summer is fast approaching. You can feel it in the air—leaves on the trees, the soil drying out, the roar of chain saws cracking through the stillness of the dawn. All the beauty and pain that summer brings. The call of the wild brings us to the places we cherish and to the points of destruction. We ask ourselves, "How to do it this year?"

Here are a few tips for those of you who have decided that nonviolent civil disobedience and direct action are effective means to achieve your goals. Many of the ideas that follow are ones that were tested at Cove/Mallard last summer. If you don't have a working knowledge of basic blockading and safety techniques, please don't go out and try these contraptions.

Whenever putting an implement on a roadway to stop machines, the first step is finding the narrowest spot on the road, or the choke point, at least a mile from the area you are defending. Many people like spots with very steep slopes on either side to prevent new roads from being built around the blockade. (This has happened often, even when it violates the law or costs an exorbitant amount of money.) For this reason, some people think the ultimate choke point is a bridge.

Once your point is established, many things can miraculously appear overnight. Slash is a great tool for slowing down the industrial machine. As many of us

know, yarn is one of the worst things to ever happen to chain saws. It completely gums up a saw, sometimes permanently. If the workers are warned, 16-penny nails work great too. One or two bumps into the nail leaves a saw so dull it won't cut at all. The poor loggers spend more time sharpening their chains than clearing the road. Wire and acrylic yarn are great for making it impossible to pull a slash pile apart by hand. Another way to make slash piles ultra effective is to build them over lock down positions (like a sunken dragon), "weaving" the slash into a dense structure, wiring, nailing and yarning it all together as you go.

An additional way to use slash is to buy extra time to set up actions. In Idaho, activists discovered that scattering small obstructions in a Freddie's path, even one log just big enough so they can't drive over it every ten feet, really slows them down. This is more effective than building huge piles of debris in a couple of spots because it makes them move their rig ten feet at a time. Just getting in and out of the

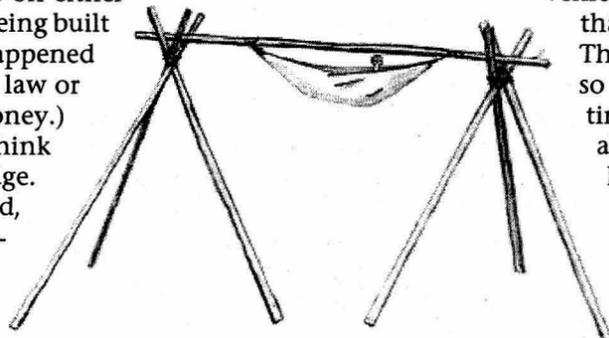
vehicle takes way more time than moving the slash. This tactic has been used so successfully that one time it took a Freddie almost an hour and a half to drive a half mile, leaving plenty of time to secure a nasty little lockdown in the road.

Double tripods

are a variation of the time-honored classic. The double tripod is essentially two tripods with a long pole suspended between them. The pole between them should be approximately five-feet longer than the tripod poles. The tripods' apexes should be set the length of a tripod leg away from each other. The pole should be pulled up, anchored and then lashed to the tripods. Attach a hammock filled with two arrestees to the pole.

One last little secret to share with all you free staters is the dragon's roost. This is a sure headache for Fred for years to come. The basic design is two 18-foot culverts, cabled together, standing on end. They are erected with a climbing rope anchored at the top, buried in the road about three feet or so, rebarred down and cemented in. Use the climbing rope to get up the culverts. Pull up tons of dirt and rocks, and fill the culverts to a few feet from the top. Fill the top three or four feet of one with cement, fitting a lockbox in the top. Now, mount a platform across the top of both culverts. Leave an arm hole in the platform to fit over the mouth of the lockbox. This setup allows for all the pleasures of home. The dragon's roost is basically a free state device, requiring some time to complete. If you ever try this, it is extremely important that there is plenty of cement below and all the way around the lockbox.

Just remember, the resistance is constantly evolving and so must our techniques and tactics. Don't stifle yourself into ineffectiveness. Be creative. Be innovative. Try something *completely* different to keep them guessing and keep it wild!



DEAR NED LUDD

DEAR NED LUDD IS AN IRREGULAR FEATURE IN THE *EARTH FIRST! JOURNAL* FOR DISCUSSION OF CREATIVE MEANS OF EFFECTIVE DEFENSE AGAINST THE FORCES OF INDUSTRIAL TOTALITARIANISM. NEITHER THE *EARTH FIRST! MOVEMENT* NOR THE *EARTH FIRST! JOURNAL* NECESSARILY ENCOURAGE ANYONE TO DO ANY OF THE THINGS DISCUSSED IN DEAR NED LUDD. SEND US YOUR SUBMISSIONS.



Now You're Cookin' with Gas! How to Grab Ronald McDonald by the Balls

BY JEBIDIAH

This little gem of a trick is a quick way to really fuck up a fast-food joint for awhile. The beauty is that it only takes a second, can be performed with no real preparation and is totally safe. You can do it on your way to grandma's, the store, work or church. The only tool you need is a 12-inch crescent wrench.

Walk up to the fast-food slop-shop with your crescent wrench. Locate the gas meter behind the building (usually near the back door). It looks like R2D2's little brother. It will be a medium gray color and will have either a few gauges or a digital readout in a plastic case on top. There will be one pipe coming in and one going out. Examine the pipes, and on the incoming one (usually the left one) there will be a little valve. It looks just like any other fitting except there is a circle about the size of a 50 cent piece in it. Coming off this circle is a rectangular tab with a hole drilled in it. That's your baby. Just grab the tab with your Stanley drop-forged crescent wrench, turn it 90 degrees and watch greasy tears roll down the faces of all those sad people in the drive-thru. Orders will quit going out within five minutes.

Since I know, I'll give you a quick rundown on what is going on inside. Jim Bob just dropped his last load of fish sticks into the fryer for today's lunch rush. The safety valves on all the fryers and grills just closed, and the grease is quickly coagulating. The manager is having chest pains as her labor-to-profit ratio plummets before her eyes. One honor student gives a shit. And the rest of the crew snicker and give each other looks while they get a well-deserved break. Dozens of sorry souls are denied their chickenmikwhopperwithfrize. For you tree huggers, that means a ream or two of paper bags, napkins, boxes and shit doesn't walk out the door. For you animal lovers, that means that Bambi's cow cousin stays on ice

for another day with the chicken parts and fish pieces.

The best part is it's just plain fun to grab a corporate fast-food joint by the nuts and twist. I like to wait until the lunch rush is hopping and the drive through is full, then coolly cruise up and shut off the gas while tying my shoe or whatever. No one will notice, no one notices anything. Then walk to a good hideout to watch as the drivers screech away pissed off. You can laugh over a sprout sandwich or a jug of Jim Beam. The fun will be over in 40 minutes when the gas repair guy comes rolling in and figures it out. But by then lunch is over, three or four hundred bucks in profit are gone, lots of customers are pissed, and McSchmuck owes Jebediah the gas repairman \$60. So all in all, it's got a pretty good result-to-effort ratio. Plus, it's funny as all hell!

Here's a quick rundown of the most vulnerable chain restaurants:

Boston Market, McDonalds, Burger King, Taco Bell, Skip-pers, Jack Off in the Box, Kentucky Fried Chicken, super-markets with delis and any pizza joint. These places not only rely on gas equipment, they intentionally hire employees who will never figure out how to fix it.

ECO-ACTIVIST HAPPY MEAL



EARTH NIGHT NEWS • EARTH NIGHT NEWS • EARTH NIGHT NEWS

Wrenching Campaign Gains Ground

Northwest Alberta has become a battleground in a multi-million dollar war against the forest and energy industry in Canada. "We're going to see someone get killed," says Mountie Dave MacKay, reviewing his collection of road spikes, bullets and a punctured gas pipeline.

His Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment has responded over the past two years to over 100 incidents of sabotage aimed at the timber industry.

The incidents include the bombing of a logging site northwest of

Calgary. In that incident, six machines were burned and another four damaged by explosives, causing an estimated \$5-million dollars in damages.

MacKay found a concrete plug with live shotgun shells embedded in it poured over a gas well and left to harden. The shells were apparently included to discourage removing the concrete plug.

Last December, eco-lumberjacks sawed down 17 power poles that deliver electricity to nearby oil wells. That hit cost \$20,000.

Faslane Peace Camp Spiking

Near Helensburgh, England, is the 16-year-old Faslane Peace Camp. The

encampment was established on a small strip of land after the Falklands' War in 1982 by local residents opposed to the neighboring nuclear submarine base.

In March, woodlands contractors were employed to cut down trees directly opposite the peace camp so that a high fence could be constructed to shield the campers from access to a side road to the Faslane Naval base. However, the trees were scaled then later spiked to prevent this initial clearance operation. The one-meter-deep fence post holes were mysteriously filled overnight, and a small two-bar steel fence erected instead. The trees still stand.

Frontlines

Operation Salami

On May 25, activists from across Canada converged on the Sheraton Centre Hotel in downtown Montreal and disrupted several hundred business people and high-level politicians who were planning to open the Montreal Conference on Globalized Economies.

The action was called "Operation Salami" (the MAI trade-deal is known as "AMI" in French) and involved 120 people split up into different affinity groups to block the hotel's entrances. An additional 400 demonstrators showed their support by monitoring the police and keeping morale high.

Shortly after 8 a.m., the first Salami "slice" of about 75 activists was guarding its entrance. When conference attendees started arriving around 9:00, they found their way blocked. They milled about confused, surprised and irritated. A couple hundred business people massed in Dorchester Square, a block away from the Sheraton Hotel. What a sight they were, all dressed-to-appear and standing stiffly in the grass. For the next four hours, none of the 500 capitalist ladder-climbers were able to enter the hotel.

By 10:15, the police and business people had a plan: They would try to cross through a bank building and break through one of the larger blockades. Another slice swiftly moved to blockade the bank building. The result: The bank building was also sealed off to business-as-usual, as nervous security personnel in the bank choose to close the whole building!

At 10:30, dozens of riot police formed lines and pushed the supporters away from the blockaders, who were now being arrested and dragged away.

Around noon, a number of demonstrators and journalists were sandwiched by riot cops, and several people were beaten with billy clubs or grabbed by their faces. A journalist with the newspaper *Le Devoir* said that several media were there and witnessed or bore the brunt of what he described as "the police's... excessive use of force against young people."

Around the various entrances to the hotel, police arrested and dragged away activists. Some were injured in the process. In total, about 100 people were arrested.

MOVEing with the Africas

Ramona and Mario Africa of MOVE recently spoke in seven southern cities in seven days. Katuah Earth First! and the Asheville Industrial Workers of the World helped coordinate the tour. The tour was broadcast to over 900 people directly and several thousand indirectly through three pirate radio stations and a variety of public stations. At three of the events, the Nation of Islam provided security, and a number of Black Panthers were involved as well.

Through the efforts of local organizers, the Ku Klux Klan rallies planned after the MOVE speeches in Asheville, North Carolina, and Memphis, Tennessee, were canceled.

For more information, contact Katuah Earth First! (address on page 35). [See interview on page 8.]

RAN DEALS

BY JOHN BOWLING

After five years of railing on the world's largest corporate destroyer of forests, the Rainforest Action Network (RAN) struck a deal with Mitsubishi Motor Sales America (MMSA) and Mitsubishi Electric America (MEA) this February, attempting to turn Mitsubishi green. The agreement, although a long way from perfect, was only made with these two companies, and the boycott continues against the 160 other companies of the gigantic, interlocking Mitsubishi *keiretsu* (corporate family).

News of the agreement sent shock waves of confusion, elation and frustration through the environmental movement. After the agreement was signed, MEA ran an ad in the *New York Times* with a picture of the Earth which boldly announced, "Before, Rainforest Action Network & Mitsubishi Electric America Were Barely On The Same Planet. Now, They're On The Same Page." In fine print at the bottom of the

To understand the agreement, one needs to realize the dramatic power shift that was occurring among key players at the time the deal was finally struck (after three years of heavy negotiations). The three kingpins of the agreement—Tachi Kiuchi, acting president of MEA, Dick Recchia, CEO of MMSA and Randy Hayes, executive director of RAN—were all retiring. They wanted to close the deal before they left. It was unclear if RAN could wrest any other concessions from MMSA and MEA than those already in the agreement by holding out longer. But were these promises worth settling over?

The entire agreement is not legally binding; it is only a good faith accord. What's more, the details of how MMSA and MEA will implement the agreement are too general. For instance, the dollar amount to be awarded to the Forest Community Support Program has not been set. The

"We're no fools. We know that this agreement is not worth its weight in the agricultural residue that it's printed on if MMSA and MEA do not come through on their obligations."

—RAN

ad, it generally described the agreement in a lot of environmental rhetoric. The RAN and MEA logos were printed side by side. There was no mention that the boycott continued on all the other Mitsubishi companies.

The bottom line is that Mitsubishi Corporation continues to oversee logging, mining and cultural genocide. The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi and its subsidiary Union Bank of California finance it, while Mitsubishi Heavy Industries supplies the weapons for the crimes. These three entities control most of the other companies in the *keiretsu* which manufactures and invests in everything from nuclear energy to beer. All of the companies conduct business in a way that would violate most US anti-trust laws. They share the logo, rotate executives, have interlocking boards of directors, maintain exclusive contracts with each other and aggressively finance one another's projects.

In the agreement with RAN, the three major programs that MMSA and MEA promised to implement are as follows:

- Wood Products Procurement: transitioning to using no old-growth forest pulp or products and eventually using non-wood-based paper

- Forest Community Support Program (FCSP): establishing a small grants-type fund to support the protection, conservation and restoration of forests and forest-dwelling communities

- Ecological Accounting: developing a system to identify ways to increase product sustainability and reduce pollution, waste and energy use.

In return for these promises, RAN agreed to exclude these two arms of the Mitsubishi *keiretsu* from the boycott.

Dahmer, Bundy, Manson, Mitsubishi.
You get the picture.

Mitsubishi corporation is one of the world's largest destroyers of the rainforest. Think about what next time you go to buy one of their cars, cars or Nissan cars. Hopefully their slogan, "The World is getting greener" will come true. Rainforest Action Network.

An old RAN ad from the glory days of auto show shut downs and appliance store antics...

WITH MITSUBISHI

mitigation cost through a voluntary fee imbedded in the price of its cars, which they will promote as benefiting forest communities.

The most difficult obstacle for the campaign to overcome will be how to articulate the boycott itself, especially after publicity like the *New York Times* ad. At best, that ad certainly confused the people who actually knew something about the campaign. At worst, it led a lot of people to believe that the boycott is over and the forests are saved. So, what is the campaign rally cry now, "Boycott Mitsubishi! But not Mitsubishi Motor Sales America and Mitsubishi Electric America!"?

The campaign is now targeting Mitsubishi Corporation, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Union Bank of California, Mitsubishi International and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries. This limits direct action to the big cities where these entities operate from. There are still consumer products to target, like

Nikon cameras and Kirin Beer, but Mitsubishi's connection to these products is obscure. Without prominent consumer products branded with Mitsubishi's logo, the campaign lacks a clear message.

Only time will tell if the agreement, with all its ambiguities, will challenge other Mitsubishi companies and extractive industries to cease tearing down forests and exterminating indigenous cultures. For now, it remains unclear whether or not MMSA and MEA will even fulfill the promises of the agreement. In the words of RAN's campaigners, "We're no fools. We know that this agreement is not worth its weight in the agricultural residue that it's printed on if MMSA and MEA do not come through on their obligations." Send your questions and concerns to RAN at 221 Pine Street, San Francisco, CA 94109; (415) 398-4404; fax 398-2732.

OWLZILLA
THE COMIC STRIP FORMERLY KNOWN AS "CASCADIA" © 1998

OUT FROM LITTLE PATCHES OF PRIMORDIAL FOREST RESERVES RISES FOWL-FEATHERED FURY, VERY PISSED OFF AND WANTING TO KICK THE DOMINANT PARADIGM'S BUTT.

THE BIRDS BECOME FEATURED GUESTS ON LATE NIGHT TALK SHOW AIRWAVES.

MAJOR MARKETING MARRIAGES FLOP IN FLAMES, SUCH AS THE HORRID "MCOWL PELLETS."

CHILDREN MOB THEIR PARENTS, CRYING FOR EVERY LICENSED TOY AND TRINKET.

"AND THAT'S WHY WE ALL NEED OUR FOREST ECOSYSTEM SO WE ALL CAN SURVIVE!"

"SO WHAT ARE YOU? A TALKING CHICKEN?"

"OWLZILLA" IS PICKETED IN TIMBER TOWNS BY LAID-OFF FOREST PRODUCT WORKERS. WHEN MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS STRIP RESOURCES BARE AND EXPORT JOBS, IT'S ALWAYS EASIER TO SCAPE-GOAT THE MONSTER.

TIMBER INDUSTRY LOBBYISTS AND PAID-OFF POLITICIANS GIVE THEIR OWN SPIN TO "OWLZILLA."

WE DIDN'T CLEAR-CUT THAT NATIONAL FOREST, IT MUST HAVE BEEN "OWLZILLA."

GET THAT DAM! TAKE OUT THAT FUCKIN DAM!

"GOD HATES OWLS"

Heron and Owl's together are wrong

BAM! OWLZILLA SMASHES THE LUMBER MILL!

SEE? THERE ALWAYS IS HOPE.

Frontlines

Aboriginals Serve Eviction Notice on Fish Farm

Aboriginals from across Vancouver Island formed a flotilla of war canoes May 21 and paddled to a salmon farm they say pollutes their homeland.

Frank Planes, hereditary T-Sou-ke Nation chief, climbed out of a brightly painted, hand-carved canoe and stapled an eviction notice to the salmon farm's door as seven Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) watched.

"I've wanted to do that for a long time," said Planes, who wore a traditional cedar bark headdress. "It's done now. We're dedicated to getting this thing out of here."

Salmon farming pollutes area waters, and farmed salmon weaken the gene pool of wild stocks. Planes said Prime Pacific Seafarm's salmon farm is anchored on the island the T-Sou-ke people used for burial.

The eviction notice ordered the Prime Pacific Seafarm to cease operations and leave the Sooke Harbor basin, about 40 kilometers west of Victoria, British Columbia. The notice was written by the T-Sou-ke Nation as a symbol of the band's sovereignty over the salmon farm.

Five war canoes and several fishing boats carried about 75 people to the salmon farm. The aboriginals chanted and sang traditional songs during the 30 minutes they spent at the farm.

Greenpeace spokeswoman Catherine Stewart said she expects similar protests against salmon farms along British Columbia's coast. A provincial government moratorium on salmon farm expansion has been in place for more than a year. There are about 100 farms in British Columbia.

Pulp Plant Targeted by Earth First! and the NFN

On May 4, 1998, Earth First!, the Native Forest Network and members of various other environmental groups gathered at the gates of Lincoln Pulp & Paper (LP&P) to protest the company's dioxin discharges.

LP&P discharges dioxin-contaminated water into the Penobscot River, damaging the health of wildlife and the Penobscot Nation, as well as all other life downstream. The Penobscot River is part of the original hunting grounds of the Penobscot Indians. Due to the polluted quality of the river, the people of Maine have been advised by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection to eat no more than two fish per year from the river. The largest source of dioxin in the water is the wastewater discharged from the pulp and paper industry's bleaching process.

At approximately 4 a.m., protesters converged on the mill. A banner reading, "LP&P go chlorine free! Dioxin kills" was hung from a water tower at the facility. During the shift change, some good dialogue took place with the plant workers.

At one point 20-30 demonstrators blocked the entrance to the mill by sitting in the road. One worker refused to stop for the blockade, instead revving her engine and driving through the blockade, hitting one of the protesters and knocking him over, and coming close to hitting another.

LP&P has been fined for more than 40 wastewater violations over the past seven years.

MITSUBISHI AND MEXICO TO PLUNDER SAN IGNACIO LAGOON

BY JEFF PANTUKHOFF, THE WHALEMAN FOUNDATION

San Ignacio Lagoon is a breathtakingly beautiful place that has remained virtually untouched by modern society. The area hosts a variety of plants and wildlife, many of which are threatened or endangered, including the California gray whale, dolphins, sea turtles, ospreys, peregrine falcons, Brandt geese, golden eagles, pronghorn antelope, coyotes, mountain lions and

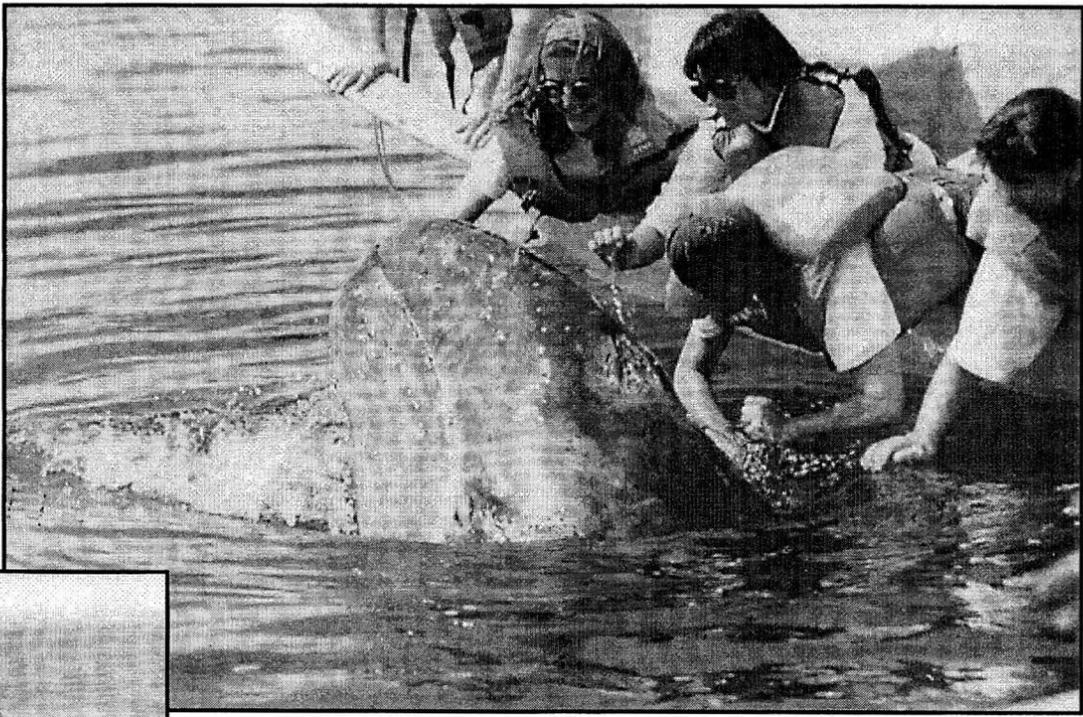
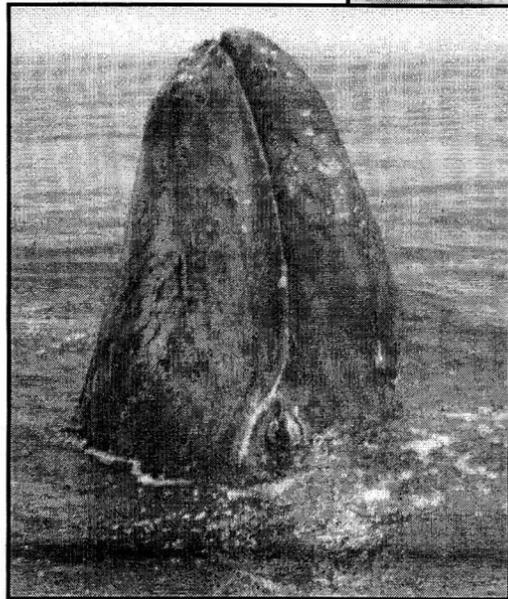


photo © Jeff Pantukhoff/Whaleman Foundation



A newborn gray whale in the San Ignacio Lagoon

North America's southernmost mangrove forests. There are no paved roads, no electricity, no plumbing, no TV, no human developments of any kind with the exception of a few small fishing and eco-tourism camps. For these reasons, San Ignacio was designated an United Nations World Heritage Site and Whale Sanctuary under a treaty ratified by 159 countries including Mexico and Japan. This imparts the same international protection to San Ignacio Lagoon as that upheld at the Grand Canyon, the Great Barrier Reef and the Egyptian pyramids.

Every winter thousands of gray whales swim over 5,000 miles from the Bering Sea to the warm salty lagoon waters of San Ignacio. Within weeks, these sheltered lagoons are teeming with playful one-ton newborns. Gray whale mothers have been visiting these lagoons since time immemorial for two reasons: The warm lagoon waters help the infant whales retain precious heat, and the high salinity buoys up the newborns, allowing them to learn to swim more easily. San Ignacio is the only one of Baja's three lagoon nurseries that remains undisturbed.

In 1988, the Mexican government designated the lagoon and surrounding area part of Latin America's largest biosphere reserve, named *El Viscaíno*.

In 1994, the gray whale was officially removed from the endangered species list. That same year, the Mexican Ministry of Trade and Japan's Mitsubishi Corporation (through a joint venture known as *Exportar de Sal, S.A.* or ESSA) proposed building the world's largest salt plant right in the

heart of San Ignacio Lagoon. The plan calls for 116 square miles of evaporation ponds to be constructed out of the surrounding terrain. Salt from the lagoon will be sold around the world for use in making PVC plastics, chemicals, chlorine, gas and road salt. ESSA's initial proposal was turned down by Mexico's Ministry of the Environment in 1995 because the project met neither Mexico's own environmental laws nor the standards established under the United Nations treaty.

In 1996, Mexico changed its environmental laws making it easier for a revised salt plant proposal to pass. In October 1997, Mitsubishi announced it had redesigned the salt plant to address environmental concerns and that a new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be done by an international scientific panel, requiring an estimated 18 months to complete. The original 465-page Environmental Impacts Assessment devoted only 23 lines to the gray whale population. ESSA is using its existing salt plant in the *El Viscaíno* Biosphere Reserve as justification for building another plant within its boundaries. But when the existing plant was built, there was no biosphere reserve and no United Nations treaty. That plant has drastically altered the lagoon, which can be easily surmised by visiting it.

By ESSA's own admission, the proposed salt plant would sacrifice over 100,000 acres of land for the network of roads and buildings alone. Fourteen giant, loud diesel engines would pump over 6,000 gallons of water out of the lagoon every second to flood over 100 square miles of surrounding land. This would adversely alter the lagoon's temperature and salinity while flooding mangrove forests and the desert ecosystem. A mile-long pier would be built in a prime abalone and lobster fishery to accommodate the super-sized diesel tankers and cargo ships, greatly limiting the gray whales' movement in a prime mating area. At least six of these huge ships would come to the site each month, creating the risk of diesel fuel spills, bilge water contamination and collision with the

whales. Toxic by-products, along with the waste water from cleaning the salt, would be dumped directly back into the lagoon. Just the exhaust alone from the diesel pumps, heavy machinery, and huge trucks and ships would have an impact on this fragile ecosystem. In short, this United Nations World Heritage Site and Whale Sanctuary would be forever altered, turning it into yet another ugly, polluting, industrial complex.

We simply cannot allow this to happen. The guidelines outlined by the United Nations treaty pertaining to commercial development within a United Nations World Heritage Site and Biosphere Reserve are straightforward. First, the development must be a conservation activity; it must maintain cultural values; it must come from or aid the local community; and it must protect the core of the World Heritage Site and Biosphere Reserve. The proposed salt plant fails to meet these criteria, which leaves only one course of action: Mexico and Japan should withdraw their proposal while honoring the United Nations treaty they signed. It's that simple.

Here's what you can do:

Tell Mitsubishi you will boycott its products unless it withdraws the proposal. Tell Mitsubishi and the Mexican government that we as world citizens will not permit the destruction of a World Heritage Site and Whale Sanctuary because of greed and shortsightedness. Tell the Mexican government to preserve and protect San Ignacio Lagoon by honoring its commitment to forever keep this lagoon off-limits to commercial development and exploitation, otherwise you will spend your travel dollars elsewhere.

Send your letters or postcards to Mr. Motohiko Numaguchi, president, Mitsubishi International Corporation, 520 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10022-4223; (212) 605-2000 and Mr. Hermino Blanco, SECOFI, c/o Embassy of Mexico, 1911 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006; (213) 351-6820.

Contact the Whaleman Foundation for more information at POB 1670, Lahaina, HI 96767; (808) 661-8859; whaleman@maui.net, <http://www.whaleman.org>.

tva's private army

BY JESSE J. AIMS

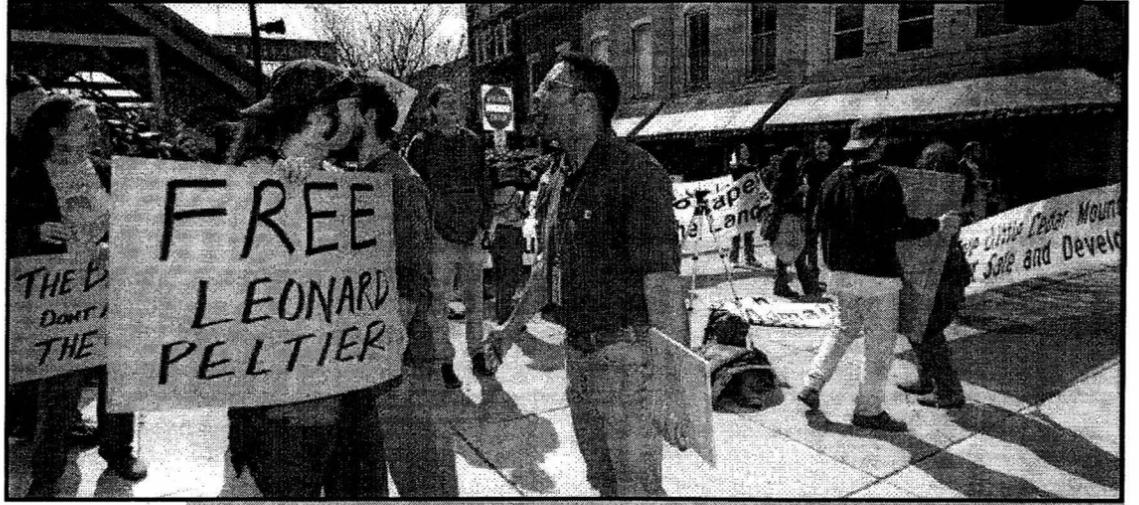
Colorful lightning and far-off thunder shatter the early morning darkness. The persistent rain blowing through the screened porch soaks me, a reminder of the belief that Anna Mae Aquash's voice is present in the rainfall. I think to myself, "Expose that evil fucker Zigrossi and never let him rest in peace for what he's done and what he's doing." My mind charges, my body and soul ignite. I like to think the rain is whispering words of encouragement and, at the same time, dousing the flames that threaten to burn out of control. March 20 was the international day of nonviolent civil disobedience in support of Leonard Peltier, which we observed in Knoxville, Tennessee. (After 22 years behind bars, Peltier was recently denied parole. His next parole hearing doesn't come up until 2008.)

Norman Zigrossi was second in command of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Counter Intelligence Program (COINTELPRO), co-created by Richard Held. Both are responsible for the violent deaths of at least 60 American Indian Movement (AIM) supporters during a 36-month death-squad campaign mounted by the agency in 1973 to "neutralize" AIM activists.

One FBI document pertaining to the standoff released under the Freedom of Information Act recommends that local police "put leaders under close scrutiny and arrest them on

every possible charge until they can no longer make bail." According to a 1977 *Rolling Stone* article, Zigrossi saw the FBI as "a colonial police force" and was quoted as saying of the indigenous people, "They're a conquered nation. And when you are conquered, the people you are conquered by dictate your future. This is a basic philosophy of mine. If I'm part of a conquered nation, I've got to yield to authority."

Zigrossi is now the chief administrative officer and executive vice president of business services for the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), a federal agency born in the 1930s to manage water resources in the Southeast that now invests in development schemes and energy generation. Those of you who were at the Round River Rendezvous in 1994 may remember Norman Zigrossi as the head of police and investigations when the Watts Bar nuke plant was shut down in Rhea County (appropriately, he had a rendezvous shitter named after him). Immediately after the '94 Watts Bar demo began, Norman ordered agents to a local rendezvous organizer's motel room to ransack his belongings. Zigrossi did an extensive "special investigation" into Katuah Earth First! (KEF!), digging up personal informa-



TVA employees try to control the demo.

tion such as sexual relationships and financial profiles. He also fabricated a hierarchical chart diagramming KEF! with generals (a title reserved exclusively for males) and second-in-command types. To make matters worse, Zigrossi recently hired a 20-year FBI veteran to head up TVA's heavily armed, thousand-strong rogue police force. According to TVA's website, he thinks the move should make TVA's force "one of the most effective police agencies in the country."

TVA is strengthening its police to protect its multi-billion dollar investments in nuclear power and weapons. The Department of Energy (DOE) and TVA are proposing to transport nuclear materials for use in submarines, aircraft carriers and in other countries for the generation of energy. According to a DOE Environmental Impact Statement, TVA plans to produce tritium, a radioactive isotope used to

make nuclear bombs, at three of its reactors: Watts Bar and Sequoyah in Tennessee and Bellefonte in Alabama.

Given this ugly and sordid history, Zigrossi and TVA were natural targets for the Leonard Peltier day of civil disobedience. It's difficult to say exactly when the civil disobedience of our rally occurred. It was probably when Gil Francis, TVA's public relations officer, tried to dictate where and how the people demanding freedom for Leonard were going to assemble and protest.

During the day, we got our message across that Zigrossi is in fact a racist and fascist. There is no doubt he is withholding personal testimony that could free Leonard Peltier. According to Peter Matthiessen's *In the Spirit of Crazy Horse*, he is personally responsible for giving the order that put a bullet in the forehead of AIM activist Joe Killsright. He also gave

the order to cover up the real cause of the death of Anna Mae and to have her hands cut off at the wrists and sent to FBI headquarters (never to be returned to her family and friends for burial). In an interview with Myrtle Poor Bear in Robert Redford's documentary, *Incident at Oglala*, Myrtle recounts that Zigrossi threatened to take her child if she did not give the false testimony that won the extradition of Leonard Peltier from Canada, even though she had never met Leonard. He forced Myrtle to look at pictures of Anna Mae's cut-off hands and said, "If you think that's bad, we'll put you through a meat grinder."

There was great power with us at the rally against racism here in Tennessee. These annual rallies will continue until Norman Zigrossi's crimes are fully exposed and justice is finally served. There will also be a demonstration in front of the White House on June 27 demanding amnesty for Leonard Peltier. To contact KEF!, write the Tennessee Valley Faction, POB 281, Chattanooga, TN, 37401; (423) 624-3939.



DIRTY DIAPERS

You all recall when the great war ended
And the baby boom came to town
If there was any trouble, just leave it to Beaver
Beaver wouldn't let you down

There was one baby born that really goes "boom"
And it hasn't reached retirement yet
The nuclear power industry
The best and the brightest, you bet

But, now, unlike your average baby
This kid has some nasty shit
Can't just boil it or flush it down the toilet
It's gonna take a real special pit

Mama! Change my dirty diapers!
So you want safe energy?
Tell that to the N.R.C.
Where they license reactors
like third-hand tractors
And only the mistakes come free

We can't just leave this stuff where it is
The reactors are choking on their own crap
And it's no fun
to put it somewhere already trashed
We need to find a blank spot on the map

Of course, we'll set aside a glacier here and there
'Cause you hippies all need a place to play
But don't fuck with the power moguls, chumps
Cause we're accustomed to getting our way

Mama! Change my dirty diapers!
So this is the home of the brave?
Then can we take a little wilderness saved?
God no; there's bugs and bears and cooties
out there
Much safer to have it all paved

The Dept. of Energy is pleased at this chance
To clear up some common misconceptions
And we'll lay it on the line,
'cause everything is fine
Contrary to any misinformed deceptions

These are not nuclear bombs we're blowing up
beneath the Earth
They are "nuclear events;"
and that's a whole other story
And this is not just a filthy nuke dump we're
putting here
This is a high-level nuclear waste repository

Mama! Change my dirty diapers!
So this is the home of the brave?
More like the home of the depraved
We keep promising ourselves a better life
And keep digging that nuclear grave

So this is the land of the free?
Tell that to the D.O.E.
When we're forced to pay for their shitty ideas
That's right, junior, you and me

So you want Mama to change your diapers
Sorry kid, it just won't pass
Your mother's taken too much shit already
You'll have to learn how to wipe your own ass

—MATTHEW HAUN

*PSILOCYBE
SEMILANCEATA*



SUBURBAN DEATH

(Scottsdale, Arizona, 1989)

Suburban Death
Eat it shit it out do it again.
Food is not survival for you.
It is entertainment.
You mindlessly graze
while your masters get fat.
Penned up in a feedlot
that you don't even see.
How could you?
When endless oral fixations
keep your head to the ground.
A new car, A new house, A new everything.
Just throw the old ones away.
The creation dies while you graze.
Intelligence-beauty beyond comprehension.
You'll throw this out too.
Because you are diseased with a cultural
disease that is a constant jones.
Gimme, gimme, gimme.
More, more, more.
Winter homes are built here.
While people starve over there.
Like the bloated pigs we are
we commandeer the lives of millions.
To serve us our desserts; coffee,
pineapples, oranges, bananas, tea.
Suburban Death
Eat it shit it out do it again.

—PETER J. GALVIN



*PAPAVR
SOMNIFERUM*

COVE/MALLARD

Yesterday these forests were crimson pink
through the smoke of summer fires
(as if the very air were bleeding here);
today i stand soaking wet
looking thru rain-smear'd glasses
sweaty from dancing with thunder;

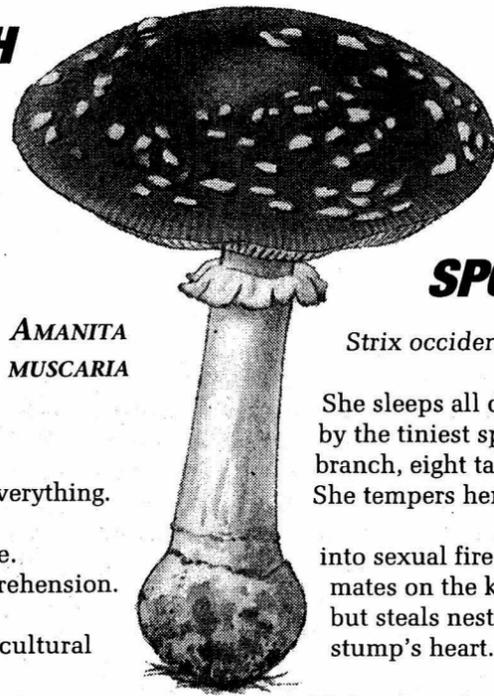
Drumming tumbles with guitar, banjo & oboe
between Grand fir, bear grass
& sweet purpling huckleberries.
The tapping of the rain
comforts me. Reminds me of earlier,
down the hill where they're cutting

when i wrapped my arms halfway 'round
a doomed grandmother pine at dawn
—and, crying, i prayed for her deliverance.

—SUSAN McCAMPBELL RING
14 VIII 94

**Send poems to:
Warrior Poets Society
ASUC Box 361
Berkeley CA 94720-4510**

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*AMANITA
MUSCARIA*

NORTHERN SPOTTED OWL

Strix occidentalis caurina

She sleeps all day, taunted by crows, mobbed
by the tiniest sparrows, and holds to that
branch, eight talons tucked beneath her.
She tempers her power, tamps threat

into sexual fire, screams in courtship,
mates on the knife-edge, doesn't build
but steals nests from treetops, from the gaping
stump's heart. Her eggs are hard.

Night unravels slights and ruses;
woodrats rustle the leaf-litter—crush
the skull undercut the belly
swallow it whole!

She is mind incarnate: cerebrum,
cerebellum, medulla oblongata, dark
eyes that see too far. She's the fallen angel
at the lip of the timberland; her breast

is as dappled as bark. Hurl'd from the story,
she scans the cold mechanics of the mountain,
the river's alluvium, the falls and its deception—
the once and broken covenant of fir.

—BARBARA HELFGOTT HYETT
FROM *THE TRACKS WE LEAVE*, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS PRESS

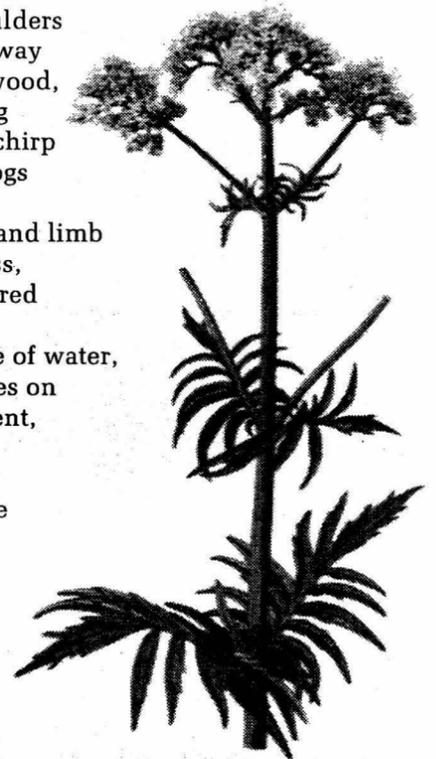
SECRETS FROM THE MOUNTAINS ABOVE NAGOYA

Sitting in the mist
between two boulders
I cannot see the way
in this bamboo wood,
but the birds sing
and there is the chirp
and bellow of frogs

In layers of fern and limb
a sudden stillness,
the mist has cleared
a deer emerges,
walks to the edge of water,
drinks, and moves on
completely content,
without regard
for the white iris
blooming there

I too am content,
singing softly to
myself
to the birds
and frogs
that answer
with silence
I take off my clothes
dance in the fern,
drink from the pool.

My footprint
and the deer track
are one.



*VALERIANA
OFFICINALIS*

—RAYN ROBERTS

**Armed With Visions
Clear as cut glass & just as dangerous**

AFTER 5 AND 1/2 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

JIM FLYNN RETURNS TO THE



continued from page 3

Dear Subfollicular Fecal Material,

Contrary to a headline I saw in Beltane, Cove/Mallard will NOT rest this summer. I don't know whose idea that headline was, but it was a bad one. Headlines like that might make someone decide to go to Headwaters instead, and they would later regret having missed the Big Wild. So for anyone who only saw the headline and missed the actual article, I want to stress that there are still very bad things happening in the Greater Salmon-Selway Ecosystem and very good people getting together to get in the way.

Mackey Day and Otter Wing could easily be reached from base camp in a day. Very nasty timber harvesting is going on there, and they're within the same contiguous tract of unprotected wilderness as Cove/Mallard. Above the Mid-Fork Clearwater, helicopters are plucking giant bundles of logs off the mountain and into the sky. Not just roadless, that area, but soon treeless too. And yes, you heard right, Fish Bate in Northern Idaho, once canned, is resurrected for fire suppression instead of blister rust control.

There will be actions, training, education, outreach, more actions, and plenty of good times happening all summer long in the Wild Rockies. I hope everyone read past the headline and got to the important parts of that article, but you can't take that sort of thing for granted.

Love and kisses,

—SHAMELESS

Dear SFB:

I am writing in answer to your card inviting me to share my views.

Ten years ago I got excited about the arrival of the latest *Journal*. It was the only publication where among other hot environmental issues I found information and opinions about the most fundamental threat to nature: Homo Sapiens! Overpopulation was viewed as a bad case of cancer, Miss Ann Thropy was writing outrageous opinions, Ed Abbey had just published his essay "Immigration and Liberal Taboos," and Malthus was a household word. Great! There was a glimmer of hope!

Over the years EF! has become awfully quiet on these issues—not because overpopulation has

gotten any better. On the contrary! But now it is not PC to mention the driving force for population growth in the US: immigration!

Talk about the numbers of immigrants, fertility rates, and what it is doing to the environment, and you find yourself called a racist, xenophobe and an immigrant basher. Just look at the recent EF! article on the Sierra Club initiative!

Like most people who come to California from other states or countries, I am an immigrant, who came here from overcrowded Europe 17 years ago. Centuries of overpopulation had destroyed the last tracts of wilderness. I was so overjoyed to find it here, but I'm also very painfully aware of how fast this country is following the destructive course of Europe.

My wife and I decided to lessen our environmental impact and forgo having children. Our personal decision turned out to be meaningless: California has grown by one third (about 12 million people) since my arrival in 1981. There are many admirable battles waged against urban sprawl, loss of biodiversity, destruction of wilderness and ancient forests, but I increasingly have a sinking feeling in my stomach, and the slogan on the fridge, rings more true every day (clipped from an old EF! *Journal*): "No matter what your cause, if it is not overpopulation, it is a lost one."

It is projected that California will have 50 million residents by 2020. The environmental effects of high immigration and the high fertility levels of many immigrants are amplified by a high-consumption life style that every resident joins as their economic condition improves. *Immigration is at the highest level in history, with the largest number coming to our state.* It scares me to think about the impact of such a human flood on this incredibly diverse, fragile, and beautiful bioregion.

The support for continuing on the present course is impressive. It reaches from the political right—including the Pope and other religious leaders, Agribusiness, Silicon Valley, and no-limit economists like Juline

ago that I started to better understand what Thomas Malthus had intimated 200 years ago. Before he went to jail, Mark Davis gave me a copy of *Overshoot* by William R. Catton, which I found to be a real eye-opener. I consider it to be the most important book about carrying capacity and the cornucopian myth.

The Social Contract is an informative quarterly journal about issues concerning population. The summer issue will celebrate the 200th anniversary of Malthus's essay "On the Principle of Population." Their phone number for more information is: 616 347-1171.

I think that Malthus's ideas are equally as important as the actions of Ned Ludd at the beginning of the Industrial Revolution. He could not have foreseen the technological developments would delay the mass starvation he predicted for an exploding population exceeding its resource supply.

To me his most enduring message is that we are just as dependent on the carrying capacity of the biosphere as any other species with whom

we share a common destiny. But we have the ultimate freedom—and responsibility—of choice: as individuals, to limit our numbers; and as a society, to decide how many people can be sustainably supported by a given bioregion without destroying its viability.

I hope that this letter answers some questions, and creates new ones. If you publish it, I will be interested to read others' responses.

—CLAUS SIEVERT

Dear SFB:

In your last issue, you printed an unsigned letter which contained misinformation regarding HR 2789, the National Forest Protection and Restoration Act (aka the "Zero-Cut" or "McKinney/Leach" bill). The anonymous author incorrectly claimed that the bill contains loopholes which allow various types of logging. The

fact is that the bill completely and utterly ends the federal timber sales program in its entirety on all federal public lands nationwide forever. It doesn't matter what the agency calls it—forest health, restoration, salvage, recreation, whatever—no more timber sales. This provides more protection for national forests against logging than either the national parks or wilderness areas currently have (timber sales are not explicitly prohibited on national parks or wilderness areas).

The author also incorrectly states (as does the editor's note below the letter) that there is a stronger bill in Congress—one that deals not only with logging, but also with mining and grazing. This is simply not true. The McKinney/Leach bill is the boldest and most far-reaching national public lands protection legislation currently in existence, and is the strongest environmental legislation ever introduced in the history of Congress.

Sincerely,
—CHAD HANSON
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR, JOHN
MUIR PROJECT

Dear *Earth First!* Journal,

Please publish and accept my letter of disassociation. My view is that *Earth First!* came to an end at the 1989 Round River Rendezvous in New Mexico. The following nine years did not see an expanded international radical *Earth First!* movement, as was hoped for. The *Earth First! Journal* did not realize a significant increase in its subscription base. What actually happened, is that after the '89 RRR, most of who was EF! left to do important bioregional work with other groups. Since we made the mistake of not ending *Earth First!* right then and there, including the *Earth First! Journal*, a parade of pseudo leftists, retrohippies, Greens, and those more committed to Gandhian nonviolent precepts than radical environmentalism, have latched onto the name, logos and newspaper.

Having been involved with EF! since the beginning, I am not mistaking the current EF! milieu for what EF! legitimately was in the past. You need to fully realize that *Earth First!* is gone! I would like to see the *Earth First! Journal* go out of business. The stupidity of the current clique's powerhold on it is a secondary reason. The primary reason is because it is necessary to retire *Earth First!* in all current manifestations, so that a needed global militant environmental movement may evolve and emerge. If you are serious about the well being of the Earth, and couldn't care less about "Earth First! first!", then you will see the truth herein and agree with me.

—CRAIG STEHR

P.S. If you publish this in the *Earth First! Journal*, my moun-

tain of complaints with you is withdrawn. I also promise to NEVER contact you again. Please leave a telephone message for me when you have decided if you will publish this or not. Thank you.

Dear SFB:

It is time to get angry. It is time to disrupt the destructive oppressive powers that be. We all have our favorite campaigns. Next year we need to converge and disrupt. By flooding DC with *Earth First!*ers we can form strong coalitions with animal rights groups, union groups, feminist groups, native groups, civil rights groups, gay rights groups and others who fight for the oppressed. PETA, Justice for Janitors, Act Up, Plowshares, Peace Action, NOW and

NORML are only a few of the active groups in and near DC. NOW organized a march in 1995 that attracted 400,000 people. That same year Justice for Janitors blocked a bridge in DC. And NORML has held its annual Marijuana

March and smoke-in on the fourth of July since the mid 70s. The march starts at Lafayette Peace Park directly across from the White House.

So if you are angry, determined and interested, this is the proposal. Hold the annual EF! ronde in the beautiful Virginia mountains. Descend on DC for a day or two of disruption. Then move on to New York City to deliver the second punch.

Bring your energy to this year's annual in Oregon and cast your howl for Ronde 99 in DC.

—GREG MACK
POB 8968
Moscow, ID 83843

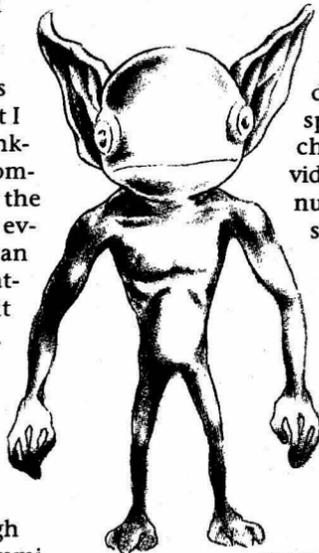
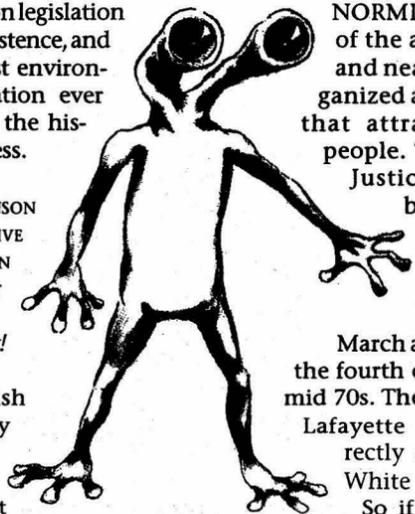
Hi!

Any chemist in the EF! movement? I would like to know how to chemically treat paper so it will spontaneously burst into flame several days later. The idea is to write police departments, FBI offices, Forest Service offices, etc. Some innocuous-seeming letter that they will place in their files. Soon after, hopefully at night when nobody's around to notice, it sets the filing cabinet on fire, destroying a lot of official records.

What we need is something that the paper can be coated with or impregnated with that burns on contact with air. This must be covered with something that oxidizes away slowly. When the top coating is gone, the substance underneath will catch fire. Of course, both coatings must be transparent, or at least not make the paper look too unusual.

If anyone knows enough chemistry to suggest something that might work this way, please publish it here.

—TSINDAR





SILVER WHEEL

in the Sky

To Earth First!

Those who seem to be running the Earth First! show—and it is a show—often base their nice, legal, good-for-media approach on a tactic of community-based organizing” The dogma that rules out real opposition in favor of the old, non-creative, obviously inadequate ways to go often justifies itself in terms of “community-based organizing.”

But never has “community” been more defined and controlled by wage-labor and consumerism, the technology that is their matrix, and the pigs that enforce it all. In other words—time to face it—there is no community. Think about where that leaves us.

The only other thing wrong with “community-based organizing” is the organizing part. An organizer is either a liberal with no radical agenda, or a radical who organizes without revealing the whole agenda. An organizer is either a reformer for whom the system is basically OK, or a manipulator who hides the scope of the goals he or she has in mind. These are the choices, which is why I stopped being an organizer.

Along with a myriad of new, unrestrained tactics, the use of critique is also an option, in lieu of “community-based organizing.” It is depressing that EF! rules out the former, while remaining allergic to theory. Weak tactics flow from a weak to non-existent analysis that trumpets, absurdly, “No compromise in defense of Mother Earth.”

—JOHN ZERZAN

Dear friends:

I'm writing to make readers aware of an incredible but little-publicized organization that activists should know about, the Rosenberg Fund for Children (RFC).

The RFC's mission statement explains that the foundation “was established to provide for the educational and emotional needs of children whose parents have been harassed, injured, lost jobs, or died in the course of their progressive activities and who, therefore, are no longer able to fully provide for their children. Professionals and institutions will be awarded grants to provide the children with services at no or reduced cost.”

The RFC was founded by Robert Meeropol, formerly Rosenberg, who knows firsthand the trauma of losing his parents (Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, executed in the 1950s) for political reasons.

The RFC recently granted \$5,000 to a college trust fund for Judi Bari's children. The organization gives money for counseling, airfare to visit jailed parents, and educational opportunities including tutoring and politically alternative summer camp pro-

grams. In the words of Robert Meeropol, “Attending a school or summer camp that celebrates economic and social justice could have a powerfully positive impact on a child whose parents were attacked for participating in such struggles [We] are making an investment in a new progressive generation.”

According to RFC staff, many activists need encouragement to apply for grants, assuming incorrectly that they are not eligible unless the harassment they face results in severe injury or death. To ask for help, or to make a tax-deductible donation, contact the Rosenberg Fund for Children, 1145 Main Street, Suite 408, Springfield, MA 01103, (413) 739-9020, www.rfc.org.

For Gaia forever,
—BEVERLY CHERNER

Dear EF! Journal,

I am currently set deep in a canyon, away from any outside modern man influence in the pristine wilderness in Idaho. I was in the greenhouse reading the Feb/March issue and came across the article on the damming of the Danube River in Hungary. This stirs up deep emotion in me. My family grew up on the Danube River, which was always quite giving and nurturing to them, supplying them with ample food. Hungary is the Danube, and the Danube is much more to the Hungarians than a river. To my family, it was freedom. I ask Bela Liptak to choose his words more accurately. I ask him to speak from first hand experience. I was appalled when I read... “Hungarian public is passive, inexperienced and insecure when it comes to any form of free expression...” He later clarifies that statement with un-

thinkable civil disobedience which leads to arrest. Civil disobedience 40 years ago meant death. My family smuggled guns on the Danube and gave them to citizens to form a revolution. My grandfather was a “FREEDOM FIGHTER,” my mother and uncle were instructed how to, and did, blow up army tanks.

My family hid Jews in their basement, they witnessed rape and murders, and my mother has seen local young men hung in the streets. My grandparents were civil disobedience and they were chased down and left the country by foot and walked to France.

There is pride in Hungarian heritage, there is passion deeper than any of us tree climbing hippies would ever know for freedom. We have no idea what true oppression is. When I speak to my family about communities and communal living, they want to slap me across the face. “Commune” meant starvation, rape and death.

I think the Hungarians are fierce warriors and if we can just recall in them their own sense of freedom and let them know we are all in this great war for Earth Mother, they would fight to the death, as my family did.

—HEATHER ANNIKA JANKOVIC SLAZAK

Professor Liptak responds:

Dear Annika,

I have the highest respect for Hungary and her heroic people. (I must be your grandfather's age, as I too was a “freedom fighter” in 1956.)

There are two things you must understand:

1) The Danube disaster has not been caused by Hungarians. The people behind this tragic project include a hate filled nationalist fanatic in Slovakia, named Vladimir Meciar, an Austrian business man named Androsch, an American Bank named J.P. Morgan and some corrupt former Communists in Hungary, (who thank God, have just lost their power in the election of May 24). The good news is, that the new leader of Hungary, the 35 years old Viktor Orban has already announced that he will fulfill the ruling of the Hague Court (return the Danube into its natural riverbed) and will build no more dams.

2) The other thing you must remember is, that while the Hungarian Constitution (the Golden Bull of 1222) is the world's second oldest constitution (7 years younger than the Magna Charta), in the 20th Century the Hungarian people have seen more Hitlers and Stalins then democracy and it takes time to develop a free press and all the other institutions we need for a people to trust and to use in governing themselves. But don't worry, with the Oxford educated Viktor Orban at the helm, you will see a Hungarian renaissance and you will feel even prouder of your grandfather's homeland in the coming years.

Best regards:

—BELA LIPTAK
EDITOR ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS' HANDBOOK

Hello, Earth First,

I'm writing because Spain, our neighbor country is trying to build a nuclear cemetery near the river that separates the two countries.

So we may need help about it. The nuclear cemetery is not a



official opinion, but the ecological Spain groups says that it is true. It may be just a rumor but in fact Spain has a lot of nuclear garbage and there's no place to put it. So the logical place to put it, without breaking the European laws is to place it near the other country and Portugal is not rich so we can't do nothing against it. All do rich countries would shut up our mouth.

The best solution to stop this crime is all the ecological campaign against the nuclear garbage and to organize a campaign in that place monkey wrenching the work. These are the latest news about it. I'll be warm and all the news will go to you. But it may take some time.

Well I guess that's all. Please send me your journal.

Be Ahead,
—PEDRO PRATA
EST. DO CALDEIRAO
CHAOS 6300 GUARDA,
PORTUGAL

Dear Earth First!

I enjoyed reading your interview with John Trudell, but I got the impression that the interviewer did not get the point that Mr. Trudell was trying to make when referring to our economy.

The interviewer did not ask him to explain it further even though no matter how many times the interviewer tried to change the subject Mr. Trudell always came back to what he felt was the main problem which is how we, Western Culture, does harm to the Mother Earth regardless if we are living peacefully, or violently, in the privacy of our own homes or working and living outside them. This is because everything we do in our Culture, Western Culture, is designed to not only conspire against Mother Nature, but to literally rape Her. Just sitting at home and peacefully watching television with our families destroys the Mother Earth and ourselves simply because of the way we extract energy from the Mother Earth. Driving our cars just doesn't pollute the air

but we have to ask where the oil comes from to help run our cars.

This is something which, I believe, must be examined more closely. Because what good is it just to protest against Oil corporations contaminating a Rainforest etc. etc. if when we go home and turn on our lights and heat etc. which only helps with the destruction we are trying to stop.

When I look at how far our culture has to go on a spiritual level I believe it will be impossible to

hang on to it, and the sooner we realize we must let go of it the better.

Sincerely,
—JO JO RIPPA

Dear EF,
Sitting here digesting Bongo's powerful words and wishing him great success. However i Live on part Earth where sympathizers are hard to come by and we take what we can get. Here Earth First is a magazine most people have never seen, it is not an organization, and most elsewhere EF, the macho football team, is not going to draw people to it that can't quite afford to die just yet or rot in jail where they can't do squat even on their best day.

All this talk about violence or non-violence is just filling up paper with words for the most part. You do what you do when and why you do it. i'm too busy trying to save the Earth here as best i can to go to Bongo's sector to get my fair share of abuse, and who would hold down the fort in my absence. Earth First! i don't think so.

A n y w a y , enough of all this trying to divide people up who care. If you talk the talk, walk the walk but don't come down on people who don't talk the talk. Everyone who cares has a gift to contribute. Other than that, enough of all this boring drivel about Bravery and cowards. i was a hero once, and i was scared shitless and hope it never happens again! i have no compulsion to prove my manhood, and while youthful enthusiasm gets many jobs done, when sharing thoughts and feelings in this Journal, i'd personally like to see some of the contributors grow up a bit. All that you can ask anyone is to do the best they can. Otherwise we're headed for the EF Olympics.

Sincerely,
—CORY E. MASON



sum̄ər tīm

Katuah EF! Regional Rendezvous August 13-17

Please join us in the beautiful Katuah bioregion for a regional rendezvous. Come to northern Georgia for fun, workshops, blockade training and knowledge about the area. Come prepared to plug into "fun activities." A field kitchen will be provided, but food donations or cold cash are very useful. Bring your sleeping bag, tent/tarp, rain gear, sunscreen, your own dish and utensils and all the other necessities. Contact John Johnson (423) 624-3939 or Nina (706) 355-9963 for directions and more information.

Deep Ecology Tour with John Seed & Ruth Rosenhek

The Council of All Beings is a series of re-Earthing rituals created by John Seed and Joanna Macy to help end the sense of alienation from the living Earth that most of us feel and to connect us with new sources of joy, commitment and inspiration that follow from union with our planet.

Through sharing, meditation and ritual, we will explore the depths of our concern for our planet. Rediscovering our "deep ecology"—our interconnectedness with all beings—we find empowerment as agents of healing change. We step aside from our solely human identification and let other life forms speak through us. We allow ourselves, through group visualizations, to re-experience our four-and-a-half-billion-year evolutionary journey.

(COAB is Council of All Beings; JS is John Seed; and RR is Ruth Rosenhek.)

- Aug. 24-28 Practicing Ecological Interdependence, Omega Institute, NY; RR & JS; (800) 944-1001; Marykace@aol.com
- Aug. 29-30 COAB for Youth, Eagle-eye Institute, Peru, MA; JS, RR and Anthony Sanchez; (617) 776-1238; eeaglei@aol.com
- Sept. 3-4, Cindy Thomashow, Environmental Ed., Antioch, NH
- Sept. 5-7 Gender and Deep Ecology Earthlands, Petersham MA; Heart Phoenix, Jeffrey Weisberg, JS & RR; (508) 724-3428; elandspc@tiac.net
- Sept. 11-13 Timeline of Light Shavano Institute, Boulder CO; John Fowler, JS & RR; (303) 440-4153; ecojed@aol.com
- Sept. 18-20 COAB, Santa Fe, NM; JS; (505) 466-9118; fesaw@juno.com
- Sept. 18-20 Despair & Empowerment, Mountainair, NM; RR; (505) 847-0637; Cely93712@aol.com
- Sept. 25-26 Naropa Institute Environmental Leadership class; JS & RR; fketchin@lungta.naropa.edu
- Oct. 2-4 Practicing Ecological Interdependence, Willits CA; RR & JS, (415) 263-0676; art4earth@aol.com
- Oct. 9-11 COAB, San Francisco CA; RR & JS; (415) 263-0676; art4earth@aol.com
- Oct. 16-18 Practicing Ecological Interdependence, Esalen Institute, Big Sur CA; RR & JS; (408) 667-3000
- Oct. 18-22 Visiting Teachers, Esalen Inst., Big Sur, CA; RR & JS; (408) 667-0593
- Oct. 23-25 COAB, Los Angeles, CA; RR & JS; (310) 456-8300; Abeath@aol.com

Earth First! Traveling Art Show Now Available!

The EF! Art Show is a small format installation featuring EF! T-shirt, *Journal* cover, historic memorabilia and poetry. It is suitable for small clubs, galleries, cafes or public spaces. The show is available for EF! groups and friends to aid in fundraising and Earth awareness in your area. The only cost is that of shipping (about \$25). Shows need to be reserved a month in advance. Limit the duration of your showing to two weeks.

Artists are invited to contribute copies of their artwork and poetry to expand the styles and themes presented over time. Please mount the artwork or poetry on a piece of stiff cardboard or recycled matte board. Label the piece with the title and name of the artist. Reduce images and poetry to 8.5" by 11" before matting, and typeset poetry in a large, easily readable font. None of the art is for sale, and the artwork submitted cannot be returned. For more information contact EF! Santa Cruz at POB 344, SantaCruz, CA 95061; cruzef@cruzio.com.

ON JUNE 1, 1997 IN EUGENE, OREGON, 11 PEOPLE CLIMBED LARGE TREES DOWNTOWN TO HALT THEIR DESTRUCTION. THE EUGENE POLICE DEPARTMENT PEPPER-SPRAYED AND BRUTALIZED THE TREESITTERS. A FUND HAS BEEN SET UP TO HELP PAY FOR A CIVIL SUIT AGAINST THE CITY. SEND DONATIONS TO THE JUNE 1 LEGAL DEFENSE FUND, c/o OUR CREDIT UNION, POB 11922, EUGENE, OR 97440.

THE DEPAVERS ECO-ROCK YOU.

"Have a Global Warming Day"
- title cut as heard on NPR.
Featuring Jan and Spring Lundberg on vocals. Get their 13-song first album, on cassette for \$12, from Alliance for a Paving Moratorium P.O. Box 4347, Arcata, Humboldt, Calif. 95518 USA

Justice for Judi Bari

July 31, 1:30 pm
Oakland Federal Bldg.

Come pack the courtroom for the pretrial status conference on the FBI lawsuit! Legal discovery of FBI evidence will be discussed and we will be demanding a full trial. Call the Redwood Summer Justice Project at (707) 887-0262 to confirm the date and time.

Luna Video

The Stafford Giant Tree-Sit is the story of the longest tree-sit in US history. The giant redwood tree known as "Luna," was discovered blue-marked for cutting by Earth First! during the Fall '97 Headwaters campaign. One extraordinary woman named Julia "Butterfly" has remained in the tree for over six months! Here's the inside view of one of the most inspiring acts of civil disobedience ever.

For copies of this video send a \$20 donation to the Headwaters Action Video Collective at POB 2198, Redway, CA 95560; (707) 459-5490 ext. 582.

ALF

PRESS OFFICE OPENS

The Animal Liberation Front is proud to announce the opening of a North American press office in Minnesota. Similar to the ALF Press Office in Britain, the NA-ALF Press Office exists to explain why the ALF carries out actions, how it does and how non-human animals are treated by our species.

Any anonymous information received by the Press Office which details ALF-style actions will be communicated to the media. The Press Office will be available as part of the network of contacts for the media. It will be able to confirm actions that fall within ALF policy and explain the animal suffering that necessitates such actions.

As a public face for the ALF, the Press Officer is available for interviews, phone-ins, news reports, etc... The group is 100% volunteer run and donations are needed for a computer, office supplies and to cover phone bills. Any reporters or interested parties may contact Katie Fedor at the NA-ALF Press Office, P.O. Box 103, Osseo, MN 55369; 612-690-1503; naalfpo@waste.org; www.envirolink.org/ALF.

Free Leonard Peltier Rally

June 27, Washington, D.C.

Contact the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee:
POB 583, Lawrence, KS 66044; (785) 842-5774; lpdcc@idir.net

ACTIVE RESISTANCE 1998

Toronto, Canada Aug. 17 - 23

AR '98 is a revolutionary left, anti-capitalist gathering uniting theory and practice. We will work to transform society and ourselves by confronting capitalism, imperialism, colonization, patriarchy, racism, heterosexism, state-violence and all forms of domination and exploitation by being critical of systems, institutions and technologies and by using tactics of resistance and direct action.

In order to help generate funds for putting on the conference, we ask those that are able to pre-register as soon as possible. Registration is \$25 US/\$35 CAN, and includes workshops, food and housing. Payments can be made to Active Resistance at POB 123, 275 King St. E, Toronto, ON Canada M5A 1K2; (416) 635-2763; resist@tao.ca.

Announcing The First Grassroots Gathering on Biodevastation:

Genetic Engineering

July 17 -19, 1998
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St. Louis, MO



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Pure Food Campaign, The Edmonds Institute
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announcements

Indigenous Environmental Network Protecting Mother Earth Conference August 2-5

The Seventh Generation Fund is hosting a conference at Medicine Lake to draw attention to the threat of two geothermal power plants to the area. Known as the "Fourmile Hill Geothermal Project" on the Klamath and Modoc National Forests in northeastern California, two energy corporations, CalPine and CalEnergy, propose to build the power plants in a roadless area, 1.5 miles from Medicine Lake. The high-elevation wonderland has been used in sacred ceremonies by the Pit River tribes for thousands of years and is home to pine martens, bald eagles, spotted owls, goshawks, ospreys and many nesting migratory birds. For more information and conference details contact the Seventh Generation Fund at POB 4569, Arcata, CA 95518; (707)825-7640.

GALA MUSIC FESTIVAL JULY 17-19

Music for nature-based spirituality and environmental defense will be held in Laytonville, California. Cost is \$20/day, \$35/weekend, including camping and parking. This gathering will bring together environmental troubadours and goddess/pagan bards with the intention of bringing spirit to activism and activism to spirit. All proceeds will benefit the Headwaters forest campaign, *Green Egg Magazine* and other non-profits. Musicians, vendors and volunteers can send inquiries, demo tapes, etc. to Environmentally Sound Promotions, POB 2254, Redway, CA 95560; (707) 923-4949; ensopro@asis.com.

EF! Round River

Rendezvous

June 29-July 6

Umpqua National Forest, OR
Call: (541) 687-8064

DO OR DIE

The latest issue (164 pages!) hit the streets in March. This compilation of voices from activists within EF! comes highly recommended. "We almost killed ourselves and each other doing it, so we think it's quite good!" Send £2.50 (incl. shipping & handling), \$6 overseas to South Downs EF!, POB 2971, Brighton BN2 2GY, England.

The Caretaker Gazette is a unique newsletter containing job openings, advice & information for property caretakers, housesitters & landowners. Published since 1983, each issue has 80+ property caretaking job opportunities, worldwide. Property caretakers enjoy rent-free living in desirable locations. Only \$15/half yr, or \$24/ yr.



The Caretaker Gazette, 1845 Deane-
EF, Pullman WA 99163. Credit card
orders, please call: (509) 332-0806.

Food Not Bombs Western Regional Gathering San Francisco, CA

July 10-12

If you live anywhere west of the Rockies, this gathering is for you! Many of you remember the International Gathering of 1995 in San Francisco, when hundreds of FNB activists converged on the city for workshops, skills shares, fun, food and of course arrests, arrests and more arrests. Things have changed since then. The new mayor has kept his promise and not arrested FNB activists.

We plan to focus inward at this gathering, to concentrate on networking with each other, sharing experiences and skills, learning new skills together, discussing the politics of FNB and building and celebrating our movement. Contact us at POB 40485, San Francisco, CA 94140; (650) 985-7087.

ATTENTION!

**BIOCENTRIC ANARCHISTS,
TROUBLE MAKERS, LUDDITES,
PRIMITIVISTS, BIOCENTRIC PHI-
LOSOPHERS AND DEVIANTS!**

There is a new biocentric anarchist quarterly coming out called *FERAL* dedicated to expanding biocentric theory and practice. This is for everyone who believes in wildness, freedom, wilderness and animal defense or anyone who is into independent thought, pushing the boundaries of creative dialogue. The first issue will be released winter of 1998. We are presently asking for submissions (deadline is September 1), donations, contacts and help with distribution. Please contact us for a mission statement, submission requirements, merchandise list or deadlines and themes for future issues.

Send requests and donations to *FERAL*, 530 Divisadero, Suite 321, San Francisco, CA 94117; highwater@hotmail.com.



Rainforest Action Network (RAN) works to protect the Earth's rainforests and support the rights of their inhabitants through education, grassroots organizing and nonviolent direct action. We offer year-round internships in the areas of organizational development, grassroots organizing, media, education and various positions within campaigns. Contact us for further information at 221 Pine St., Suite 500, San Francisco, CA 94104; (415) 398-4404; helpran@ran.org

THE LEONARD PELTIER

FOOD DRIVE FOR CHIAPAS

When Native American political prisoner Leonard Peltier learned about the massacres and starvation in Chiapas he asked that we organize a food drive. It was suggested that we name the food drive after Leonard Peltier. We need money, rice, pinto beans and corn oil. Donations will be collected at the rally to free Leonard Peltier on Saturday, June 27, 1998 outside the White House in Washington DC. Caravan plans to cross the border on Mexico's "Independence Day" - September 16, 1998

Food Not Bombs
3145 Geary Blvd. #12
San Francisco, CA 94118 USA
1-800-884-1136

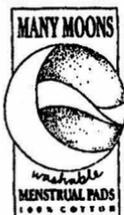
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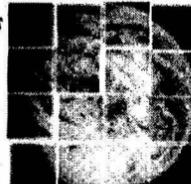
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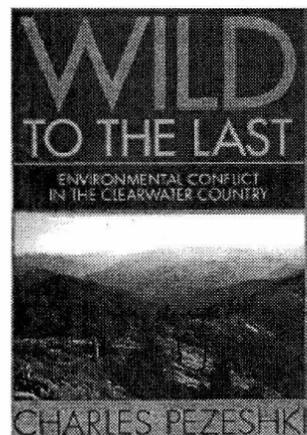
REVIEWS FOR YOU TO CHOOSE

Wild to the Last

BOOK REVIEW BY KRIS SIESS

To a life of shame and failure,
Of sorrow and despair.
To a life undiversified by hope or joy.
All desire gone,
All hopes ground into dust.
To a malevolent God,
To jail,
To fate.
And to the Wild Rockies,
Wild now, wild still, wild to the last.

So goes the old Wild Rockies Earth First! drinking toast that serves both as frontispiece and title to Chuck Pezeshki's new book, *Wild to the Last—Environmental Conflict in the Clearwater Country*. Pezeshki, a professor at Washington State University, carries an uncommon level of street credibility, or in this case skid-trail credibility, for a guy with a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering. As a founding



member of the Clearwater Biodiversity Project, which has worked closely with the Cove/Mallard campaign, and a tireless defender of the Clearwater drainage of North Central Idaho, Chuck has certainly paid his dues. This shows in his erudite and passionate plea for what remains of his favorite places.

The Clearwater drainage is at serious risk of being lost, another proverbial place "that no one knew." The Clearwater stretches from Selway/Bitterroot country in the south to the St. Joe in the north. Its heavily logged front country masks some of the best blocks of pristine habitat anywhere. This is an area where a very few wild salmon still make their epic 500-mile swim to the high country to spawn, a place where, despite humanity's best effort, the wolf and grizzly have not been fully extirpated.

Pezeshki knows this place. He has run its rivers and tramped over its ridge tops. He has discovered his favorite places being destroyed. He brings an engineer's sharp eye for fact and figure to this work while demonstrating a heartfelt passion for the land. Pezeshki is logical yet lyrical, precise and poetic at the same time.

The book conveys a sense of place through the printed word with uncommon clarity. In his words, "I call it the Heart of the World, and when I sit in the hot springs scattered across the face of the land, I can still feel the passion and the magic of creation welling up beneath me. The heart of the world is not cool." The book treats personalities on both sides with sensitivity and wit and winds up with a stinging, unsettling essay on the essentially totalitarian nature of the Forest Service/industry juggernaut.

Chuck has, over the years, worked with anyone he thought could help save the Clearwater. He has certainly rubbed elbows with sellout enviros and politicians. But he has also brought fiery oratory and conviction to mud-soaked basecamps and otherwise tame demos. He would, literally, give the shoes off his feet to a starving EF! activist and has personally fed me a fair amount of veggie chili and beer.

This work is at once an exhortation, eulogy, plea and prayer, the product of a determined, unflinching and studious blend of analysis and intuition. Check it out. To purchase the book, contact Washington State University Press, POB 5910, Pullman, WA, 99164-5410; (800) 354-7360; fax (509) 335-8568.

Page 32 Earth First! Litha 1998

MUSIC REVIEW BY NEAL TRUTTRUP

Watch music; it is an important art form. Rulers should be careful about what songs they allow to be sung.

—PLATO

Yehea! Awoooooo! I'm damn happy to introduce Warrior Poet Society's *A Night to Howl*, a new collection of Earth First! poetry and music. This three-tape set thoroughly documents two amazing evenings of performance from the 1994 Los Angeles and 1996 Tucson Activist Conferences. The tapes contain over 80 songs and poems from 30 artists. This release is a high-water mark in the growth of Earth-honoring culture.

These tapes do what art is supposed to do. They mirror, warts and all, the diversity, passion and intelligence of the community that produced them. They explore the issues that have been at the heart of EF! activism in recent years. In some ways, they tell the story of our collective life more effectively than any EF! Journal article or rendezvous workshop.

Since this collection reflects our diverse community and the dire situation we face, prepare to be both inspired and challenged. Several pieces go to the heart of the recent violence/nonviolence debate.

Others deal with the gender issues hashed out in recent years. Here's a quick peek:

The first tape opens with the witty words of Dennis Fritzing, "something historically demanding, simply love and understanding, put away thoughts of pride and pelf, and simply love the Earth for itself," from his poem "Agenda." Adam Bregman's "The Greenpeace Store" is an exquisite slam of eco-shopping. Peter Bralver's "About Trickster and Two Stories," reveals a sinister government plot to induce a "single agonizing controlled delay, final and adjustable, catastrophic ecospasm." After the ecospasm, the talented and spirited Kids for Conservation will give you hope for the future as they cover Walkin' Jim Stoltz's "A Kid for the Wild." Dwight Worker's poem "Wild Assed" provides the movement with material for future gender dynamics discussions.

Side two starts with Mark Williams' "Mesa Roja," a brilliant piece that relates a "fictional" situation in

A NIGHT TO HOWL!



which the FBI infiltrates an environmental group. Adam Bregman's "The Bears" is a hilarious tale of renegade bears wreaking havoc in human society. Leona Klippstein's "Stabbing at the Sacred" is a beautiful examination of the conflict between modern technological society and ancient, feminine, Earth-centered cultures.

The second tape opens with Peg Millet's beautiful "Medicine Wheel Song." Next, a biting song from Terry Stone challenges those who have "A Whole Wheat Look and a Wonderbread Mind." Dennis' poem "High Explosives" expresses his regret that the US Army didn't prepare him to be a militant environmentalist. Leslie Hemstreet sings of the power of women's cycles in "PMS Avenger," the

power of shoplifting in "I Am An Anarchist," and the power of violence in "Fantasy." Mathew Haun takes on the topics of animal testing, phony environmentalism, nuclear waste and the men's movement.

In the early 1980s, there were only a few courageous artists devoting themselves to this type of art. Since then, the number of artists and the quality and quantity of their work has increased dramatically. Their efforts are reviving the ancient and desper-

ately-needed tradition of culture that honors the Earth and her defenders.

At the 1989 EF! Rendezvous, I first felt this culture's power give a voice to our love of the natural world and our rage over its destruction. It affected me deeply and helped me recognize the Earth as my home and its life as my family. It inspired me to devote my life to honoring and protecting the Earth.

Earth- and activist-oriented art is needed more than ever. At a time when people are deeply alienated from nature, art can help people reestablish and maintain healthy bonds. For those paralyzed by grief or rage, this art is powerful medicine. These voices sing loud and clear in open defiance of the destroyers. "How can we keep from singing?"

To order the three-tape set send \$20 to Arizona Earth First!, POB 3412, Tucson, AZ, 85722 (for just the one tape of Los Angeles, send \$10, two tapes of Tucson, send \$15).

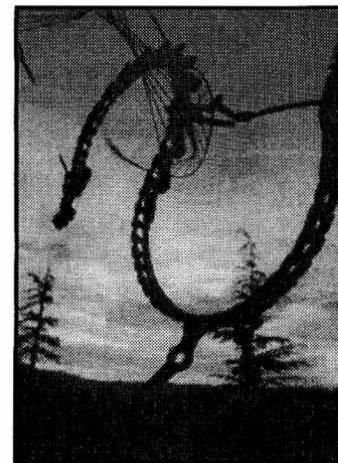
DRAGONS ON THE ROAD

MUSIC REVIEW BY JIM PAGE

Timothy Hull is amazing. He is the master of what I would call "mythological realism." His songs mix the gritty fabrics of daily struggle with the magical visions of symbolic power, creating a landscape we can all move and act in. His new tape, *Dragons On The Road*, is a must-have for anyone concerned with our current state of unnatural affairs. There is brilliance, depth and the dark haunting tears of the ancestors. The guitar work is superb, with an enormous sound, sometimes delicate, sometimes driving, with rhythmic complexity. The vocals are strong and clear. You wonder how he can sing and play like that at the same time. These are the works of a true artist.

The title track pits the dragon of the road blockaders against the St. George of the lumber companies. But Hull's mythology is not Christian so this time the dragon wins. "Nailed and Boarded" unravels the cruel illusion of private property, capitalism's most sacred cow. He sings of urban sprawl battlegrounds along "The Cooper Point Road," and of the revisions of history with Custer and the 7th Cavalry in "The Good White Road"—"there's plenty of excuses when someone has to die."

There are also two songs about the joy we feel in communion with our friends: "Merry Hearts" and "Sing To Say" about an all-night jam in Eugene after an EF! gig. "The Black Horse," which I still can't get out of my head, is a beautiful searching journey through "the landscape of my mind." "Holy Air" asks all the right questions about religion and love. "Sacramento River Song" is a chilling look at a chemical spill that devas-



A road dwelling dragon at Warner

tated these waters, spreading from the tiny life all the way to the eagle—"The national symbol sick on the poison that we made." This song is amazing—one can only cry and then get mad. And when you're sufficiently angry, "Tough Reckoning" gives you a place to put it. A great piece of righteous defiance, a perfect way to end a great recording.

These songs and this singer need to be better known. We deserve this

kind of quality.

Dragons On The Road is not yet available on cassette from the *Earth First! Journal* but soon will be. To order his other album, "Brighness of Brighness," use the form on page 33.

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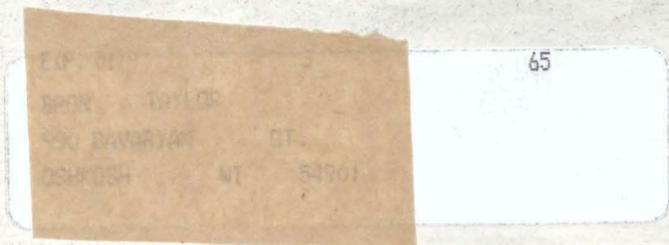
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	The Dayak Struggle.....13	TVA's Private Army.....26
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